

TERM ONE 2022

SENIOR COMMUNITY LEARNING NEWSLETTER

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

"Don't stay on mute"

COMING UP IN TERM 1

FRIDAY 25TH FEBRUARY
1PM SCHOOL FINISHES FOR
FAMILY FUN DAY SET UP

SATURDAY 26TH FEBRUARY
FAMILY FUN DAY

MONDAY 7TH MARCH
BEACH SAFETY AWARENESS DAY

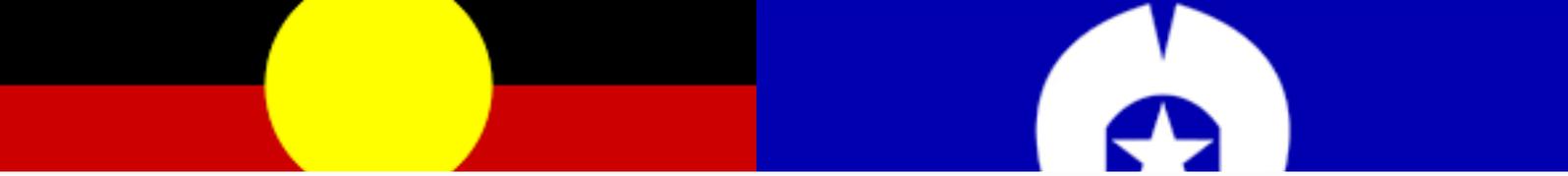
FRIDAY 11TH MARCH
STUDENT FREE DAY

MONDAY 14TH MARCH
LABOUR DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

FRIDAY 8TH APRIL
1PM SCHOOL FINISHES FOR END
OF TERM

SENIOR MENTORS 2022





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



Welcome to the Stella Maris Senior Community 2022!

The motto that the new Year 6 students chose to have on their jumpers is
'Don't stay on mute!'

They felt this was a great nod to the last two years, but resonated with the culture in the seniors, which is one that encourages students to speak up. Speak up for themselves, speak up for each other and speak up for the wider community. We look forward to delving deeper into this theme throughout the year.

We have an exciting on-campus, on-site, in person year planned. One that is full of learning, connectedness and growth.

The senior mentors will be encouraging students to approach school with a growth mindset. Students and their mentors are all learners. If we find something hard, it's because we can't do it yet.

Our mistakes are all opportunities for learning, and we can all grow and develop.

By working together we will be living the Gospel Values of:

'Independence, Empathy, Commitment, Enthusiasm, Creativity, Integrity, Cooperation and Respect.'

Please join us in welcoming our new students and families to Stella Maris, all in SCE:

Dylan Gray
Carson Tirtha
Daniel Villanueva

Our team looks forward to an exciting year of learning, growth and progress; not to mention camp! With your support we know it is going to be an enriching experience.

STUDENT LEADERS OF 2022

Community Partnership Leaders: Neil Manoj, Sasha Dhalavi

Regeneration Leaders: Isaac Solano, Bernice Chu

Wellbeing Leaders: Savannah Brennan, Ava Strickland

Communication & Information: Emilie Laine, Ella Bowman

Arts Leaders: David Golembiovski, Jasmine Page

Sport Leaders: Marco De Lia, Edie Thomas



Learning Adjustments

Welcome back to an exciting new year! We are looking forward to working together in partnership to make learning happen in the Senior Community – students, mentors and parents all working together!

An important aspect of our partnership is the individual learning goals the students will be working towards. These goals may be in a variety of curriculum areas. Regular instruction and check-ins will be happening between students and teachers. We encourage all caregivers to discuss with their child what their learning goals are and how they plan to work towards achieving them.

Questions you can ask about their goal:

What are you working on?

Can you show me your Student Learning Plan? (on google drive where the students are working on their goals) What are you doing to work towards achieving it?

How can I help you with your goal?

What are you most proud about this goal so far? Celebrate success together!

For some students Program Support Group (PSG) meetings will happen towards the end of Term 1. Stay tuned for further information about these meetings closer to Week 8.



DISCOVERY AND ENCOUNTER

Each member of the senior community will inquire into the key understanding:

Wisdom shapes our future and comes from having eyes wide open to the past and present

During this term, students will firstly focus on building a culture for learning. The senior community will establish the rules and expectations to keep us all safe. Similarly, we will draw on the school rules and Gospel Values. Students will then explore the past history of time and begin to explore the culture, rules and governments. Through this, students will inquire into the following questions:

What is culture?

Why do we have rules?

How have rules affected people, particularly First Nations People in history?

What is 'Government'?

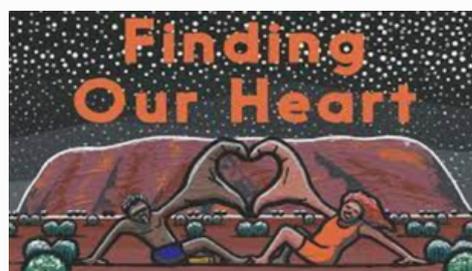
How does 'Governments' work?

How have the rules changed over time?

In Encounter this term, the senior community will explore the key understanding:

Understanding our faith identity helps shape our mission as hope-filled people with a purpose

Students will explore 'who is Jesus?' and 'what was Jesus' mission by listening, interpreting and making connections to scripture stories. Also, the senior students will draw on inspirational historical and present figures whose mission is hope-filled. Students will have an opportunity to draw on their faith identity and make connections to these inspirational figures to develop their own personal mission as a hope-filled person.



English

S.M.A.R.T SPELLING

S Say
Say the word
out loud.

M Meaning
Say the word in
a sentence.

A Analyse
Break the word up
into syllables, letters
and sounds.

R Remember
Which part of the
word do you have to
remember.

T Teach
Teach it to me
by spelling it aloud.

This term in English, we are continuing to develop our self-directed learning and English skills through our Learning Block. This consists of various workshops and sessions that students attend throughout a fortnight. We will have 6x three hour blocks throughout the fortnightly timetable, which includes: workshops, performance (a new addition to our Learning Block to support the school performance happening in Term 4), Q&A, reading groups, and self-directed learning. We will continue to have Big Writes on Mondays in a Blue Week, as well as Cold Writes 5 times throughout the year. Students will have opportunities to develop their English skills while delving into the Discovery and Encounter content, through reading and creating texts that explore these curriculum areas (please read about these above). In the first few weeks of learning this term we will focus on building our stamina in reading and writing and understanding the expectations during these times.

SMART Spelling

This year we are continuing with SMART Spelling in the Senior Community and we encourage students to continue to share new vocabulary and weekly spelling patterns at home. This is a way to teach common sound and letter patterns. Students choose a range of words (from simple to complex) to meet different needs. Similarly, students will uplevel their spelling by researching the etymology and word origins. They then choose a fun activity, such as Rainbow Words or Word Data, each day to practise and learn the chosen words.

Mathematics

In Term 1, we will be exploring 2D Shapes and Angles, Transformation, Addition and Subtraction, Number Awareness and Place Value and finally Chance and Data.

2D Shapes and Angles: Students will understand that shapes and objects have distinguishable characteristics and are named because of their properties. They will explore shapes and identify, name and use geometrical language to describe features of simple shapes and objects, such as regular polygons (including hexagon, pentagon, octagon), quadrilaterals and 3D objects. The students will estimate, measure and compare angles using degrees. The students will create and label acute, obtuse, reflex, straight and right angles accurately to the closest 5° using a protractor. Using their new knowledge, seniors will manipulate, identify and name isosceles, equilateral and scalene triangles.

Transformation: The students will describe translations, reflections and rotations of two dimensional shapes. They will also create tessellations using regular shapes with and without the use of technology. The students will also apply the enlargement transformation to familiar two dimensional shapes and explore the properties of the resulting image compared with the original. They will also investigate the history and the significance of mandalas and how transformation is used to create them. This will result in the students being able to design their own mandala that represents themselves. The students will also be investigating the Fibonacci numbers and their origins, as well as being able to explore the Fibonacci sequence in art and nature.

Addition and Subtraction unit: Students will consolidate the many strategies that they already know and be challenged on new strategies or a new range of problems that use whole numbers, decimals and fractions. The important element here is to focus on the strategies used, so that students choose the most efficient ones. They will learn about relational thinking and the meaning of the equivalence sign (the equals sign means 'the same as' rather than 'work it out').

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.

Chance and Data: Students will list outcomes of chance experiments involving equally likely outcomes and represent probabilities of those outcomes using fractions. They will also compare observed frequencies across experiments with expected frequencies. They will pose questions to collect categorical or numerical data through observations or surveys. Using that data they will construct, interpret and compare a range of data displays, including side-by-side column graphs.

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 fluency 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.

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.

The information below comes from our eSmart program to help you have a conversation around cybersafety with your child.

ZIP IT.

When you're online, always keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do! Remember that people online may not be who they say they are. Online friends are still strangers even if you have been talking to them for a long time. Don't share personal information online; don't share your full name, photos, addresses, school information, telephone number, places you like to spend time.

Make sure you have set your privacy settings to restrict access to personal information.

When you use chat rooms or instant messenger, use a nickname instead of your real name. To stop people accessing your online accounts, always keep your passwords secret and change them regularly.

BLOCK IT.

Think about blocking people who send you nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments. Always delete emails from people you don't know, and don't open attachments from people you don't know. They might be nasty or contain a virus that can stop your computer working.

FLAG IT.

If you see anything that upsets you online or if someone asks to meet you, tell a parent or an adult you trust and they can help you.

If you want to talk to someone else, you can call Childline on 0800 1111. If a friend you have made online asks to meet you in the offline world, talk to your parents or a trusted adult about it. You should never meet up with someone you have met online without an adult going with you because it is dangerous. If someone you know is being nasty to someone online, speak to a parent or trusted adult about it.

Bring Your Own Device Program

Remote learning from home during 2021 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.

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 practises, 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 Harding.

Contact Us

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

Claire Falzon [SCF] cfalzon@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Jess Barbieri [SCB] jbarbieri@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Pearl Roberts [SCP] proberts@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Orla O’Kane [SCO] ookane@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Learning Adjustments Coach: Sharon Hynes (Tues-Fri) shynes@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

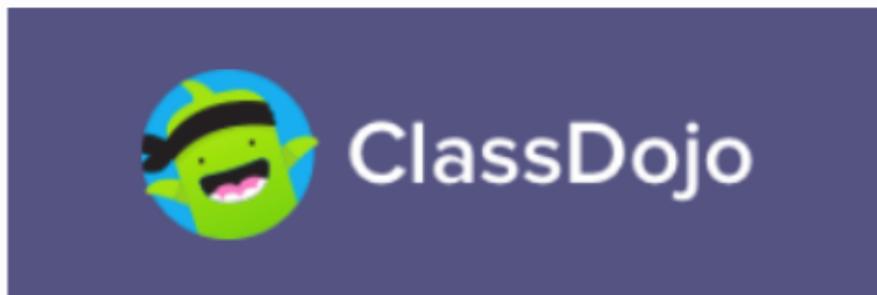
Learning Adjustments Coach: Bridget Kirsch (Mon-Wed): bkirsch@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

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

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

Akuol Diing [LSO] adiing@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Makur Amour [LSO] mamour@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au



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.

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.