2nd February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

At our school, we want to come to understand your child and their individual needs. We also want to clearly communicate what Kinder 2017 will look like. In order to achieve these aims we share with you the following information:

(1) Accompanying this letter is an “About My Child” form. We ask you to complete this form, detailing your hopes and expectations for your child as well as their positive characteristics, special abilities, areas of need etc. In this way we hope to come to better understand your child.

(2) Also accompanying this letter is the Term 1 Overview for your child’s year. The Overview helps you understand what your child is learning in class this term.

(3) We also invite you to the Kinder Information Evening. It will be held in our Library at 6.00pm on Monday 13th February. During this meeting we will outline necessary details of the upcoming school year and answer any questions you may have.

(4) The K-2 Reading Parent Workshop will be held on Monday 13th February. You have a choice of two sessions: 9.15am or 6.30pm. Many Kinder parents may find it handy to attend the 6.30pm session as it follows the Kinder Information Evening.

In summary, please complete the “About My Child” form and return it ASAP. Please use the Term 1 Overview to be aware of what your child is learning. And, to be fully engaged in your child’s start at our school, we trust that you will find both the Kinder Information Meeting and Reading Parent Workshop both highly beneficial.

Our three Kinder classes made a sensational start to their formal schooling today. Our first impressions are that they are a wonderful group of children. Thank you for being punctual this morning and ensuring that your child was dressed in the correct uniform. The children certainly looked ‘all grown up’.

Sincerely,

K Williams
Kevin Williams
Principal

Vision/Mission Statement

“Empowered by the Spirit, we at St Mary’s live, learn and grow as disciples of Jesus in a nurturing Catholic Community.”
Term 1 2017 Subject Overview
Kindergarten

The following is a brief summary of the topics children in Kindergarten will be learning about this term. Topics will not necessarily be taught in the order given below.

Religious Education
- Ways we are loved by God
- Displaying how we love God, others and Creation
- How is God important in our lives
- Lent is a special time to focus on having a change of heart
- When we donate money to Project Compassion, we think of the people we are helping as being part of God’s family, just like us.
- During Lent especially, we think about saying sorry and about forgiving people who may have hurt us.
- Holy Week and Easter is a very special time for Christian people
- We celebrate Easter for fifty days as Jesus’ resurrection is very important to Christians.
- Easter is a season of great joy and love for Jesus, each other and creation.

English
- Correct pencil grip
- Recognising the difference between a letter and a word.
- Recognising the sound a letter makes.
- Identifying chants and rhymes through Nursery Rhymes.
- Identifying words with the same initial sound.
- Recognising high frequency words.
- Recognising full stops, capital letters and spaces between words.
- Expressing a point of view about a text.

Mathematics
- Count forwards to 30 starting at any number
- Count backwards from any number in the range 0 to 20
- Order, read and make numbers up to at least 20
- Read and use ordinal names to ‘tenth’ (eg. You are second in line, I stopped on the ninth step)
- Find and name circles, squares, triangles and rectangles in pictures and the environment
- Make and draw circles, squares, triangles and rectangles
- Use everyday language to describe features of common 3D objects (eg. round, pointy, flat, curved)
- Group everyday 3D objects found in the environment (these go together because they all roll)
- Copy or continue a pattern of objects and drawings
- Make a repeating pattern with objects ▲ ▲ ● ▲ ▲ ▲ ●
History/Geography
- Explore different places and what makes particular places special
- How we can look after the places that we live in
- What is my history and the history of my family?
- Stories from the past, being told and shared
- Explore how the past is remembered in different ways.

Science and Technology
- Identifies the basic needs of living things.
- Describes what plants and animals, including humans, need to stay alive and healthy.
- Identifying the needs of a variety of living things in a range of situations, e.g. pets at home, plants in the garden or plants and animals in bushland and/or on farms.
- Follows a series of steps to draw or model ideas and construct solutions.
- Reflects on what they did and the usefulness of the final solution.

Creative Arts
- Investigates relationships in their art making.
- Explores characteristics of living things.
- Talks about significant features and relationships within their artworks.
- Explores the qualities of different media and tools.
- Identifies different colours, shapes, textures in artworks and how these make artworks interesting.
- Distinguishes a drawing from a painting and a sculpture from a photograph.
- Shows preferences for certain artworks and justifies why using their feelings, colour preferences, subject matter and associations.

PDH and PE
- Recognising that everyone grows and changes and that we all need to help each other by working together.
- Acknowledging that we are all different but all belong to God’s family.
- Identifying how individuals care for one another.

Library
This term in the library Kindergarten will be getting to know the library and its routines. Each week your child will borrow a book which needs to be returned the following week. We will be reading our all-time favourite nursery rhymes. Nursery Rhymes are important in connecting children to texts they have experienced. Nursery Rhymes also help beginning readers develop one-to-one correspondence between the spoken word and written text. Children will be completing a crafty task in response to each nursery rhyme we read.

Teachers: Miss Dawson, Miss Johnson, Mrs Lynch and Mrs Brennan
“About My Child”

We would appreciate your assistance in the completion of this questionnaire which will enable us to gauge how we can work together to maximise your child’s learning this year.

Child’s Name: __________________________
Child’s Class: __________________________

1. Hopes and expectations for my child:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. Areas in which I feel my child needs further development:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. Positive qualities I see in my child:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. Special interests/abilities of my child:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. Special circumstances/comments:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Signed: __________________________ (Parent/Guardian)