Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

Our Semester 1 Reports will be sent home with your child on Friday 12th June. The teachers have dedicated many hours into ensuring the Report is a true reflection of your child’s progress. In English and Maths the Report details what your child is able to do. Equally important are the next comments that detail what your child would benefit from doing, e.g. “Jason would benefit from carefully editing his writing.” The Parent Teacher Meetings are an ideal opportunity to discuss your child’s learning and emotional/social progress. We kindly ask you to be punctual for the meetings.

Report time also provides a wonderful opportunity for you to commend or congratulate your child on particular achievements and efforts. It is also an opportunity to appropriately challenge your child in certain areas.

Marriage Debate – What Can You Do?
As you may be aware, the question of Same Sex Marriage has taken on a certain urgency recently. This question is not something that should only be left for Parliamentarians to decide, based solely on the views of lobbyists and pressure groups. We all have a responsibility and a voice to make clear that a change in the definition of marriage will impact our local communities in very real and immediate ways. To assist you in being well informed, a number of resource and information materials are available on the Diocesan website www.dbb.org.au including a Draft letter to Members of Parliament and contacts for those representatives in Broken Bay. To find out more about what you can do, please contact the Diocesan Communications Office on 9847 0724 / news@dbb.org.au.

Upcoming Events

- Catholic Rugby League Thursday 4 June
- Athletics Carnival Presentation 2.40pm Tuesday 9 June
- Eucharist Practice 4.00pm Tuesday 9 June
- Year 6 in Canberra Wednesday-Friday 10-12 June
- Year 2 Assembly Thursday 11 June
- Polding Cross Country Friday 12 June
- Reports sent home Friday 12 June
- First Eucharist Sunday 14 June
- Parent Reflection Morning Wednesday 17 June

Thank You
We thank the many parents who joined us to learn more about how Spelling is taught in the modern classroom and to hear how they can help their child at home. The research is unequivocal. When parents are engaged in their child’s learning their child’s achievements are greater.

We sincerely thank Mrs Hughes and Mrs Burns for sharing their expertise and so ably leading our two sessions.

Athletics Carnival Presentation
Our Athletics Carnival Presentation is at 2.40pm on Tuesday 9th June. You are welcome to join us.

Kind Regards

Kevin Williams
Principal

Uniform Shop Coordinator
From among a field of quality applicants, I am pleased to announce that Mrs Julie Anderson has been appointed as our new Uniform Shop Coordinator. Congratulations Julie. We also thank Mrs Leesa Sternbeck for stepping into the temporary role during the past 6 weeks. A reminder that the Uniform Shop is open from 8.30-11.00am Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Your Child’s Report
From Our REC

Parent Reflection Morning
Our Parent Spirituality Morning, themed ‘A Spirit of Motherhood’, is on Wednesday 17th June, 9-11am. Please return RSVPs if you can attend. It will be a lovely way of having some time out and finding a space for quiet and reflection. Our presenter, Robyn Gallagher from the Catholic Schools Office, and I imagine the morning will be a worthwhile experience that fits with your own personal experiences. There will be no pressure: you can participate as much or as little as you would like and whether you are Catholic or not, attend church or not or regard yourself as ‘Spiritual’ or not, I encourage you to come along. We’d love to see you there. A coffee van will be on the premises from 8.30am to provide a coffee for those who are attending. We encourage participants to bring a small plate to share for morning tea afterwards. If you can stay for a chat, it’s a great opportunity to connect with other mums and grandmothers at our school. Please return the RSVP if you can attend.

Winter Appeal
Our 2015 Winter Appeal is in full swing. We ask for families, before the end of Term 2, to please donate any tinned goods, jumpers and blankets. If you or your children have outgrown anything that is still in good condition, please donate! Although we ask for donations of clothing items that have been pre-worn, please ensure that they do not have rips or stains, as they will be new clothes for people in our local community. Your donations are appreciated.

Sacred Heart
Next Friday 12/6/15 we celebrate the Mass of the Sacred Heart. This will be at 9.15am. We invite parents to attend.

First Eucharist
Dates to remember:
Practice and Reconciliation: 4-5pm Tuesday 9th June at St Mary’s or 4-5pm Wednesday 10th June at St Brendan’s.
The Celebration of the Sacrament is on Sunday 14th June, 11.00am.

HELP NEEDED!
I currently have some material that needs to be cut and sewn into sashes for use in masses and liturgies. While the sewing itself is quite simple, the number that need to be sewn means that it is taking a long time to complete. If you think that you are one of the parents or grandparents who can help sew some of these sashes (as few or as many as you would like!), please contact me in the school office 4396 5100. All help is appreciated.

Enjoy the long weekend!
Emma Sellars - Religious Education Coordinator

From Our Family Liaison Officer

“A Spirit of Motherhood” is the theme of our next Parent Reflection Morning on Wednesday June 17th, 9am-11am. All parents/ carers are warmly invited and encouraged to attend, with child minding available.

This morning will be a perfect opportunity for parents/ carers to take some time for themselves and reflect on the important role of motherhood.

While educational presentations such as Maths and Literacy workshops are always well supported by parents, participation by parents in these more personal, reflective activities is key to building a strong school community, which further supports students.

Last year’s event was a wonderful success which I’m sure we can repeat this year.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer

Parish Details
4396 4455
www.toukleycatholic.org.au

Mass Times
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 7.30am
9.00am
6.00pm

Father Stephen Parish Priest
Father Michael

Merit Awards
Dimity M
Emma C
Joey T
Blake B
Cahill L
Bailey F
Scarlett O
Jaxon C
Sean S
Luke W
Lauren G
Daniel M
Koby S
Zoe J
Sienna S
Beckett B
Josephine R
Ewan H
Holly M
Tahlia H
Maya W
Declan P
James V
Aaron D
Ellie W
Kobe C
Grace H
Isaac N
Lachlan O
Julianna S
Thomas S
Hunter B
Sheridan S
Liam S
Talitha B

Canteen News
Term 2 roster is on the school’s website. Friday 5th June Soup-of-the-day is Pumpkin.
**KidsMatter**

Children start developing relationships with people from when they are babies. The bond with their parents, responding to their parent’s voice, copying parent’s actions, sharing games and activities all help build connections between children and the people around them.

As they encounter more people in their world, extended family, friends, child care staff, etc they develop their skills in building and maintaining relationships with people.

Positive relationships help children to develop good social skills and the ability to make and keep friendships, which leads to positive mental health and wellbeing.

**From Our Librarian**

**WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING IN THE LIBRARY?**

*Kindy* have built the Three Little Pig’s houses and a tower for Rapunzel!

*Years 1 & 2* children have been learning to write and type their username and password, in order to log into our school computers. This is much different from what we do at home. For many of our home devices we only need to touch or swipe the screen.

*Year 3* children have been creating a project about themselves in response to the text, *My Place* by Nadia Wheatley.

*Year 4* children have been creating products in response to survey data of particular age groups. Next we are going to look at the advertising tricks that influence what we buy.

*Years 5 & 6* have been using a set of criteria to evaluate websites. They have also been learning about plagiarism and the importance of identifying and gathering key ideas of information and putting these into our own words.

**From Our Office**

Thank you to everyone who has been keeping up to date with their school fees. Please remember to check the bottom of your monthly statement to see if your payments are up to date, any overdue amounts will be highlighted. If you have fallen behind we ask that you catch up as soon as possible.

Thank you
Lyn and Jacqui

**Something We’ve Noticed**

I have been asking a variety of different parents their opinion about our 2015 Homework Trial. The responses have been very interesting. I look forward to surveying our school community in Term 4.

**Something We’ve Noticed 2**

Once again we’ve noticed the accepting, inclusive nature of the children at our school. We like how our children ‘accept differences’. It’s an important lifelong trait and something to be encouraged by parents.

**Parent Literacy Workshop**

For those parents unable to make the workshop’s on Tuesday, there are booklets available at the office.

**First Eucharist**

The practice for First Eucharist is at 4.00pm on Tuesday 9th June in our Church.

**Star Awards**

Darcy S
Bailey J
Tyson S
Harrison R
Ryan G
Zac H
Isabella P
Bella E
Phoenix R
Liam H
Shannon R
William H
Isla A
Tyarna G
Katie-Ann G
Joel C
Sarah W
Nicholas S
Ryan C

**Parent Literacy Workshop**
From Our PE Teacher

Athletics Carnival Presentation
Please join us on Tuesday 9th June at 2.40pm in the Undercroft Area for our Athletics Carnival Presentation. Everybody is most welcome.

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator

School Banking
Two new rewards have been released for Term 2 and are available while stocks last:
- ET DVD
- Planet Handball
- Intergalactic Rocket
- Invisible Ink Martian Pens

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for these exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

For Year 6 Parents
The next MacKillop transition day has been confirmed as the 24th June (Wednesday Week 10). Only MacKillop accepted students are to attend - all others (St Brigid’s, St Peters’s, Gorokan High etc) will be expected at school.

Reunion
For St Mary’s Catholic Primary School Tuckshop Ladies. Dinner at Canton Beach Sports Club on the 25th July at 6pm. Expressions of interest to Helen Davies on 0431 218 858

You’re invited to St Mary’s Reflection Morning, ‘A Spirit of Motherhood’
Parents and carers, you are all warmly invited to attend a morning of discussion, blessing and reflection. If you can stay for morning tea and a chat afterwards, please bring a plate to share.

Everyone Is Welcome
Take time out from the busyness of life to connect with what is important to you.

Wednesday June 17th
9.00-11.00am in our School Library
RSVP Please return the slip below to the school office or call on 4396 5100

I _______________ will be attending the Parent Reflection Morning on Wednesday June 17th. My child is in class _______________. Contact number _______________.
I will/will not (please circle) require child-minding. My child(ren) are aged ________.