Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

After 8 years of providing quality teaching to many children, Miss Lovelock has decided on a new direction in her life. She will finish teaching at our school on Friday 21st August.

Her dedication, commitment and capacity to make each child feel special and valued have certainly made a difference to the students in her care. Her affirming manner and genuine interest in the welfare of each child has been obvious.

Monique’s gifts have benefitted many children at our school and we certainly have been blessed to be able to appreciate and enjoy her teaching talent. We wish Miss Lovelock well and genuinely thank her for the many contributions she has dedicated to the children at our school, contributions that have added richly to the culture of St Mary’s.

Please Join Us

We warmly invite you to the following occasions:

- **P+F Meeting**
  Tonight at 7.00pm in our school’s Library.
- **Grandparents’ Day Liturgy**
  Our Grandparents’ Day Liturgy commences tomorrow at 1.50pm in the Church. Following the liturgy, our grandparents (and parents) are welcome to join us for a cuppa and a visit to their grandchild’s class.

“**The Importance of Your Child’s Wellbeing**”

9.15am + 6.30pm Thursday 6th August

An important Parent Education Workshop that addresses the following—What is wellbeing? What difference can I make to my child’s wellbeing? I want my child to be happy and settled—what can I do? How is wellbeing linked to my child’s learning? I want to know more about positive thinking. What can I say and do to help build resilience and independence? How can I help my child manage feelings of nervousness and anxiety? Free child-minding is available.

**Your Thoughts and Prayers**

Please keep the Partington family (Charlize 2 Green, Diezel 1 Blue) in your thoughts and prayers. The children’s grandmother passed away recently. We pray that your treasured memories and Our Lord’s strength will provide you with great comfort during this difficult time.

**School Zones**

Please be aware of and adhere to the school zone speed limits around our local community. From 8.00-9.30am and 2.30-4.00pm, 40kmh speed limits are in force.

Kind Regards,

**K Williams**

Kevin Williams
Principal

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**Upcoming Events**

- **Grandparents’ Day Liturgy**
  1.50pm
  Thursday 30th July
- **CCC Athletics**
  Friday 31st July
- **‘Secondary School Experience’ for prospective students at St Brigid’s Catholic College**
  Lake Munmorah
  Wednesday
  5th August
- **The Importance of Your Child’s Wellbeing Parent Workshop**
  9.15am + 6.30pm
  Thursday 6 August
- **Year 3 Touch at Doyalson**
  Friday 14 August

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**Term 3 Week 3**

29 July 2015

**SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Toukley

Year 1 Excursion - Reptile Park
Grandparents Day Liturgy
Tomorrow we celebrate Grandparent’s Day with a liturgy, 1.50pm in the church. This will be followed by afternoon tea on the top playground for grandparents before there will be time for grandparents to visit their grandchild’s classroom. We hope that both parents and grandparents can join us in celebrating Grandparents Day.

Thank you to the parents who are supporting the afternoon by providing a plate for afternoon tea. We appreciate it!

Confirmation
Many students in our school (Year 2–6) are currently preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep these children in your prayers. A reminder, compulsory classes begin next week.

Compulsory Parent and Children Classes - at St Mary’s 7-8pm on the 5th and 12th August or at St Brendan’s 4-5pm on the 6th and 13th August,

Term 3 Masses
Our first school Mass for the term will be the Assumption Mass, Friday 14th August at 9.15am. Our Father’s Day Mass will be on Friday 4th September at 9.15am. Please add these dates to your diary, we would love for you to join us!

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our Family Liaison Officer
It’s good to see the RSVP’s to next week’s Wellbeing Parent Workshop coming in. Childminding will be available both morning and evening so please RSVP so we will know how many children will need care.

The workshop will demonstrate how important children’s wellbeing is to their learning and show the commitment St Mary’s has to all student’s social and emotional learning. The aim is to develop children who are both academically and socially well rounded.

While a lot is done at school, just like with reading and maths, it takes the support of parents/ carers at home for children to fulfil their potential for social and emotional development and boost their wellbeing.

Please come along to gain insights into the importance of wellbeing and learn about what you can do to support your children in this important aspect of their development.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
KidsMatter

Building positive mental health from a young age is a great asset for children. Knowing how to cope with challenging circumstances, understanding their emotions and developing resilience are skills everyone needs to grow and mature.

As parents we would like to be able to protect our children from any upset or difficulties but that’s not realistic. They will suffer disappointment and challenges in life that are unavoidable, but if they are resilient and have learnt positive coping skills they are better able to recover, move on and be willing to still give things a go. While it may be hard to see our children upset, if we never let them experience disappointment, sadness, frustration, etc then we are denying them the opportunity to learn and grow. This was demonstrated really well in the recent movie “Inside Out”.

There are many things we can do to support children in developing positive mental health that don’t require special training, special skills or lots of money. Please use the Mental Health Basics link to read more from KidsMatter about children’s mental health.

From Our Librarian

Once upon a scary night, three friends set out on a journey. But where were they going in the dead of the night tip-toe creeping in the pale moonlight?

Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2 are going to find out this week as we read Scary Night by Lesley Gibbes.

Were they scared?
You bet they were!

Year 3-6 will be listening to the beautiful language that brings to life The Duck and the Darklings by Glenda Millard.

Dark was a sorry, spoiled place; in a broken and battered place. It has been that way for so long that sun ups and sundowns, yesterdays and tomorrows and almost everything in them had been disremembered by each and by all.....

Both books happen to have been illustrated by Stephen Michael King who was the author of last week’s book, Snail and Turtle Are Friends. Keep a look out for these books, they are worth a special place on your bookshelves at home.

Thanks everyone for your interest and enthusiasm for this year’s shortlisted books. You are sharing great responses in discussion during our library time.

Miss Gray
Librarian

Star Awards

Adam Q
Malaya M
Ellie R
Candice B
Layla S
Alex S
Angus V
Cohen B
Mason G
Indianna J
Brydie G
Makayla J
Ethan G
Cooper J
Brandon W
William H
Nate H
Alexi B
Kyle L
Isabella H
Cailin G

From Our Office

Thank you to the families who have sent in the Fathers Day notes & money. Please remember to keep sending them in as it would be a shame for the kids to miss out on purchasing a gift for their dad’s & pop’s. The note is available on the school website or there are copies at the office.

This is the last week you can purchase an entertainment book. They are available at the office for $60.

Thank you
Lyn and Jacqui

Year 1 - Reptile Park
The Importance of Your Child’s Wellbeing Parent Workshop  
9.15am + 6.30pm  
Thursday 6th August  
In our school library

The Language of Maths in the Classroom Parent Workshop  
9.15am + 6.30pm  
Thursday 27th August  
In our school library

Canteen News  
Please Note—The price of Fandangles Ice Creams has increased to $1.60.  
Term 3 roster is on the school’s website. If you are unable to come in on your rostered day, please remember to contact Donna or the school ASAP.  
Friday 31st July Soup-of-the-day is Minestrone

Uniform Shop Hours  
Current shop hours are:  
8.30-11.00am Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For appointments outside these hours, please call Julie on 0402 311 749.

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Team Lightning - Netball Gala Day

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You’re Invited  
Workshop: The Importance of Your Child’s Wellbeing  
We would like to warmly extend an invitation to all mums, dads and carers to attend our Parent Workshop on The Importance of Your Child’s Wellbeing.  
When: Thursday 6th August, 2015 at 9:15am and 6:30pm  
Where: St Mary’s Computer Lab/Library.

I ___________ will be attending the Wellbeing Workshop on Thursday August 6th.

I will be at the 9:15am / 6:30pm session (please circle). My child is in ____________.

I will/ will not require child-minding. My child(ren) are aged ____________.