Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

Many children have represented our school at the recent Soccer Gala Day and/or yesterday’s Netball Gala Day. On both occasions it was pleasing to hear the positive feedback from teachers and parents who accompanied the teams. We thank the many parent helpers who devoted their time training and organising the teams on the relevant day. We especially thank Mrs Bain for her exceptional organisational skills and the students themselves, for their tremendous sportspersonship, fair play and sense of fun. You were wonderful representatives of our school.

Congratulations Holly
We congratulate Holly Cannon (2 Blue) for recently being baptised. Welcome to our Catholic faith, Holly.

School Survey
Thank you to those many families who completed the online school survey. The compiled data will help shape future directions at our school. The data will be used in conjunction with our 2016 School Review.

Homework
At the beginning of the year we consulted extensively with parents, teachers and older students about homework. As a result of those consultations, the way homework ‘was done’ changed at our school. Early in Term 4 I will, again, be seeking your ideas/input about homework. The changed homework practices were trialled for 2015 and it is time to determine if those changes are what our school community wants.

Staff Development Day
The first of two Staff Development Days for Term 4 will focus on the new History syllabus and will be held on Friday 23rd October.

School Photos
We are sending home our School Photos today. We hope you enjoy them.

The Term’s End
Thank you to all those who have generously offered their help during the past term. Our children’s skills continue to grow and we very much like the way the kids at our school are as people. Positive, trusting, kind, funny, loyal, inclusive kids who enjoy life.

A reminder that, due to the public holiday, we return to school on Tuesday 6th October. Enjoy the Spring weather.

Kind Regards,

K Williams
Kevin Williams
Principal

Upcoming Events

- Last Day of Term 3
  Friday
  18 September

- First Day of Term 4
  Tuesday
  6 October

- Waratah Shield
  Friday
  9 October

- Year 6 Assembly
  Thursday
  15 October

- Staff Development Day
  Friday
  23 October

Isabell & Grace Year 5

Book Week
Fundraising - Catholic Mission
Weeks 1 and 2 next term we begin the biggest fundraising of the year for Catholic Mission [http://www.catholicmission.org.au/] and we’re going to help ‘Sock it to Poverty!’ Get ready to bring in your coins to donate. More information will be in our Week One newsletter.

Baptism
Please join me in congratulating Holly C in Year 2 who was baptised at St Mary’s last month.

Term 4 Dates
Masses and Liturgies
All Saints Mass 9.15 am Friday 30th October
World Teachers’ Day Liturgy Friday 6th November
Thanksgiving Mass 9.15am Friday 11th December (Led by Year 6)
Week One Advent Liturgy 1.50pm Monday 23rd November (Led by Kinder and Year 2)
Week Two Advent Liturgy 1.50pm Monday 30th November (Led by Year 1 and Year 3)
Week Three Advent Liturgy 1.50pm Monday 7th December (Led by Year 4)
Week Four Advent Liturgy 1.50pm Monday 14th December (Led by Year 5)

Other Events
Year 6 Assembly and Sacred Space
1.50pm Thursday 15th October

Children’s Liturgy
A reminder that St Mary’s now celebrates Children’s Liturgy at the 9.00am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. Parents, this is a great way of connecting the church and parish with your family. Fr Stephen would love to see many families making this a regular Mass you attend.

Enjoy the break from the school routine, see you all ready for a busy Term 4!

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our Family Liaison Officer

Last week a flyer went home for the 123 Magic and Emotion Coaching course for parents/ carers that will be running early Term 4. The course not only deals with how to manage children’s sometimes difficult behaviour, but also looks at the Social and Emotional development of children and how we can help them recognise and manage their emotions in constructive ways. If you are interested in attending please RSVP either by returning the slip at the bottom of the flyer or contacting the office to let Jacqui or myself know. Resources will have to be ordered for those attending so I will need to know numbers by the end of Week 1 next term.

Please take some time to look after yourselves and your families over the holidays, and enjoy time together. From our own childhoods I’m sure we all have special memories of time with family and the school holidays are a great opportunity to make those memories for our own children.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
KidsMatter

Following on from last week and the importance of parents'/carers' wellbeing, there is another great article on how Parents and Carers Matter Too. Parenting can be very stressful and tiring and it's important that parents/carers take the time to look after themselves. When parents/carers can learn to recognise signs of anxiety, manage stress and are feeling good, they are more likely to be able to provide the best care possible for their children.

During the holidays why not take a look at the KidsMatter Newsletters that are on their website. The latest newsletter talks about resilience and optimism and how to foster both in children. Previous issues are also available and cover topics such as preparing for starting school, children's mental health, children's sleep routines, cybersafety, family breakdown and many others. Access them via the KidsMatter Newsletters link. You can sign up to automatically receive the ENewsletters every three months.

From Our Librarian

Three terms down and one to go! My, how the year has flown! This week library books and guided readers need to be returned. Please check at home. I am amazed at the places where library books and guided readers end up. It makes a big difference when books are protected in a waterproof library bag. This keeps the books well away from defrosted ice packs, leaking drink bottles and left over lunches. Once the pages of a book become damp, wet or sticky it is no longer useful. Having a library bag also becomes the central place to keep all library books so they don’t wander off around the home.

Enjoy the holidays everyone.
Miss Gray
Librarian

From Our Office

Important Information Regarding Student Medication
Please note that medication of any kind cannot be brought to school by students. Where possible the administration of medication should be done at home rather than school. If medication must be administered during school hours a "Request for Administration of Medication Form" must be completed by both the parent and the student’s doctor before school staff are able to administer medication. This is a Catholic School’s Office requirement.

Thank you
Lyn and Jacqui

Star Awards
Samuel W
Matilda S
Evie M
Jaime S
Claire W
Jack B
Mikayla M
Aaron R
Lauren G
Charlize P
Mia W
Caitlin W
Maraea P
Carissa M
Joseph M
Kyle B
Riley G
Lucy H
Megan P
Marlee T
Madeline W
Ethan W
Alex C
Ariel C
Caleb F

Year 6 Graduation Update
Please be advised that we have changed the RSVP date for the Year 6 Graduation until 9/10/15. Tickets can now be booked and paid for at the office. Tickets will be sent home a couple of weeks prior to the Graduation. If any parent would like to help out but doesn’t know how, please contact Nicky Arthur on 0450 924 442. All help is welcome!!

Year 6 Girls

Chase Year 3
From Our PE Teacher

2015 CCC Soccer Gala Day
What a wonderful day was had by all! My best memory was the singing, dancing and cheering I observed from so many schools all day. The kids planned their cheers in their breaks and performed them before, during and after their games. They then supported their classmates on the sidelines whenever they weren’t playing in a bright and supportive manner. Thank you to our wonderful parents - we couldn’t attend without you!!

CCC Netball Gala Day
The weather gods have really been with us over the last week. 25 amazing teams of kids from St Mary’s School – 223 boys and girls from Year 3 – 6. All trained by our amazing parents and teachers – thank you all!!!! Our children had so much fun and represented St Mary’s with pride, skill and sportsmanship. Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters. Please see additional handout for results.

Thank you
Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator

Team Thunderstrike
Fynn & Jack Year 3
Jye Year 3
Team Thundergirls