Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

A reminder that Friday is our Staff Development Day. Each year schools are provided with 5 Staff Development Days which are targeted professional learning opportunities for teachers. On these days students do not attend school.

The focus for our day on Friday is to familiarise ourselves with the new History syllabus. History will be implemented in our school from 2016, with Geography being introduced in 2017. Together History and Geography will replace the previous Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE).

P+F Meeting is Tonight
Our term’s P+F Meeting will be held at 7.00pm tonight. You are welcome to join us.

Homework Survey and Meeting
We appreciate the quick response with many surveys being returned to date. A reminder that a meeting to discuss homework practices will be on Wednesday 4th November commencing at 9.15am. We welcome any more surveys you may wish to submit. Your input coupled with our teachers and students ideas will be heavily reflected in the final decision.

Your Prayers and Thoughts
Please keep the Armstrong family (Georgia 4 Blue, Lucy 2 Blue) in your thoughts and prayers. The girls’ great grandmother passed away recently. May your treasured memories and Our Lord’s strength give you great courage during this difficult period.

All Saints Mass
Please join us as we celebrate the Feast of All Saints with Mass at 9.15am on Friday 30th October.

World Teachers’ Day
On Friday 6th November our school celebrates World Teachers’ Day. What little thing can your child do to express their appreciation of their teacher’s efforts?

Kinder Transition Sessions
Our three Kinder 2016 Transition sessions are on Wednesday 11th, 18th and 25th November commencing at 9.30am.

Regards,

Kevin Williams
Principal

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Catholic Mission
During Week 1 and 2 this term we have been fundraising for Catholic Mission. I am so proud of all of our St Mary’s children; your compassion and willingness to help others in need is so strong. Because of the amazing effort you put into this fundraising drive, we raised a total of $2713.50 for Catholic Mission. WOW! A new record for St Mary’s! Thank you to the Year 5 and 6 Mini Vinnies students who all helped during this time, and the families who continue to support our school. Well done, everyone!

Tomorrow, some of our Year 6 Mini Vinnies students will present our donations in the form of a cheque to representatives from Catholic Mission at the Mission Mass. The Mass is being held at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

All Saints’ Day Mass
Next Friday (October 30th, 9.15am) we have our All Saints Mass, led by Year 5 students. Please join us.

From Our Family Liaison Officer
Next week is the last week of Mental Health Month and also our Wellbeing week at St Mary’s. Our focus will be on the wellbeing of parents/carers/grandparents in our community.

While St Mary’s staff do our best to foster and develop the social and emotional development and wellbeing of students each day they are here, we recognise the impact that positive mental health and wellbeing in the adults who support children at home plays in their lives.

We will have a range of (gentle) physical activities that help get us moving and improve our outlook, an afternoon tea, as well as a great presentation about the link between our mental and physical health.

These are all opportunities to not only learn but also to connect with other parents/carers. As parents/carers we all have our ups and downs and it can be a bit isolating at times thinking that we are the only ones dealing with things, but through connecting with others you’ll find that we generally face similar challenges and it’s nice to know that we are not alone. I hope to see as many parents/carers as possible come along and take part.
Something We’ve Noticed
We have noticed the beautiful manners displayed by our young children when they visit the office. The manner in which they use excellent eye contact and make polite requests is pleasing.

Star Awards
Ty J
Tyson S
Bailey F
Aedan F
Edin D
Lucy N
Elliot H
Jack M
Indi B
Savio D
Ryan C
Ashton R
Brendan T
Ella T
Finn T
Sam L
Noah E
Haylee S
Georgia A
Tyarna G
Megan P
Nicole Q
Julius D
Jesse S

Uniform Shop News
The Uniform Shop will be closed this Friday (23rd October) due to the scheduled Staff Development Day.

Canteen News
Volunteer forms went home last week. Could they please be returned by Friday 13th November.

This fortnight your children will be learning about the following concepts.

Kinder
- are learning, when adding two numbers together, to start with the biggest number and count on to find the total. They are learning to start with a number and take away to find how many are left.
- Year 1 are learning to count forwards and backwards by 2, 3, 5 and 10 from any starting point, read and use ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd etc.), read and represent 2-digit numbers (34, 67, 98 etc.) and some 3-digit numbers (124 etc.).
- Year 2 are learning to use the terms half (1/2), quarter (1/4) and eighth (1/8) to describe parts of various shapes and groups of objects.

Year 3 are learning how to use a number line to show fractions and to count by quarters, halves and thirds.
Year 4 are learning how to read, write and measure the capacity of a container in L and mL. They are also learning to change amounts from mL to L or L to mL (eg. 2400mL = 2.4L, 1.3L = 1300mL) and order amounts.
Year 5 are learning to use 24 hour time, read timetables and compare the duration of events. They are also learning about mass (weight), reading, writing and ordering amounts in kilograms and grams to solve problems.
Year 6 are learning to read maps, interpret position using coordinates, understand compass points and use, give and follow directions to locate places.

Maths Corner

From Our Librarian

In the library this week we continue to learn about being safe online. Children will view It’s A Serious Game from Hector’s World. They will discuss the use of personal details and the importance of using a nick name when playing an online game.

Kinder, Years 1 and 2 will be discussing people they can trust and identify who can be trusted from the clips they have viewed so far. Years 3 and 4 will be making a book mark and creating a nick name they can use when playing an online game. Year 5 will be examining a selection of websites for the personal information they require and evaluating which of these would be the safest to use.

School’s out for the day! But there’s still a lot happening online for a group of young friends. Grace and Bianca are dealing with cyberbullying, hacking and potential betrayal, Ryan has downloaded ‘free’ ringtones, and Dean and Joel constantly playing Star Warriors (https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/classroom-resources/gameon ). Year 6 will be viewing this video clip titled Game On and discussing the implications of the different scenarios for high school students.

If you would like further information regarding online safety, I recommend the following website https://esafety.gov.au/. Valuable information can be found in the Parent Resources tab. This can also be accessed via our library webpage.

Miss Gray
Teacher/Librarian

From Our Office

Thank you to all parents who have honoured their 2015 school fees payment arrangement. The payment of school fees assists the school in its obligation to pay bills and the ongoing purchase of resources for your children. The Catholic Schools Office monitors our fee collection rates and have requested that families be reminded that unless an alternate payment arrangement is in place, all fees should be paid in full by 13th November 2015.

Thank you
Lyn and Jacqui

Year 6 Assembly
# Wellbeing Week

Come along to meet other parents/carers & learn about taking care of our own health and wellbeing

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
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<td>Cuppa &amp; Chat Library</td>
<td>Mums &amp; Bubs Walking group</td>
<td>Gentle, relaxation Yoga</td>
<td>All Saints Mass</td>
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<td>Meet in top playground</td>
<td>Meet in top playground</td>
<td>Meet in the hall (childminding available)</td>
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2.00pm Parent Talk “How thoughts affect feelings” Classroom next to the undercroft (childminding available)  

2.30pm Afternoon Tea Top playground

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Maths question for home:  
I have a number (Kinder-Year 2 two digit, Year 3-4 three digit, Year 5-6 four digit), it is even. What could my number be? How do you write it? Can you count forwards or backwards from this number by 1, 10, 5 or another number? Can you break this number into smaller parts?

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Year 5 students learning about the qualities of leaders