Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

Easter is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. On this Sunday, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. For Catholics, Easter Sunday comes at the end of 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving known as Lent. Through spiritual struggle and self-denial, we have prepared ourselves to die spiritually with Christ on Good Friday, the day of His Crucifixion, so that we can rise again with Him in new life on Easter. Easter is a day of celebration because it represents the fulfilment of our faith as Christians.

We wish all families a holy and happy Easter.

**Your Thoughts and Prayers**
Please keep my Mum and our family in your thoughts and prayers. Mum passed away on Saturday afternoon. Mum loved life, did everything with a smile on her face and had a cheeky sense of humour. She saw the good in others and was a positive, hope-filled person.

**Well done, Year 5**
I heard news that our Year 5 students were wonderful representatives of our school during last week’s trip to Bathurst. We expected nothing less, proving again what a great group of children you are.

For the Easter break and adjoining Staff Development Day, school will be closed on Friday 25th, Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th March. Our students and staff return on Wednesday 30th March.

Kind Regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams
Principal

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**Upcoming Events**

- **Holy Thursday Reflection**
  9.15am
  24 March

- **Staff Development Day**
  Tuesday
  29 March

- **Children return to School**
  Wednesday
  30 March

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**Bathurst Excursion**
Holy Week

This week is Holy Week, the final week of Lent. Tomorrow is Holy Thursday, the day where Jesus shared the Last Supper with his disciples. Good Friday is the day we remember that Jesus died for us as he was nailed to the cross. On Easter Sunday we will celebrate Jesus’ rising from the dead.

Tomorrow students from various classes will be retelling the story of Holy Week up to Jesus’ death on Good Friday. This liturgy/reflection will be held in the Undercroft at 9.15am. Please join us.

Stations of the Cross

Each Good Friday our students support the parish though re-enacting the Stations of the Cross. This is held in the church from 9-10am. There will be both speaking and non-speaking roles for all volunteers K-6.

First Eucharist

Enrolment forms have been sent home this week outlining the dates of various enrolment meetings and parent/child classes for those making the Sacrament of First Eucharist. Many Year 4-6 students will be making this sacrament. If you didn’t receive an enrolment form and believe you should have, we have extra copies in the school office. Alternatively if you have any questions, please contact me to discuss your personal circumstances.

Cluster Mass

Last Thursday our Year 6 students joined other Year 6 students from across the Diocese to share in the Eucharist at Holy Cross Kincumber. Well done to all of our students for the calm and reverent way you participated in Mass. You set a great example for our school.

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our REC

From Our Family Liaison Officer

Thank you to those generous parents who responded to the call for volunteers for the targeted reading programme for Primary children. Mrs Healy will be in touch to go over the details so we can begin Term 2.

A reminder that a note for the Seasons for Growth for children was sent home last week. It is designed to help children deal with the loss and grief associated with separation, divorce and death within their family. You can find the note on the school website if you need another copy or if you would like more information you are welcome to speak with me or come along to the parent information session at 2.30pm on Thursday March 31st, in the staff room.

Coming home today is some great information from Toukley Neighbourhood Centre about programmes they are running during the school holidays. They are also running a Financial Literacy Course in May which would really benefit families to help manage ever increasing expenses and bills.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
Something We’ve Noticed
The Year 5 teachers appreciated the number of parents who took the time to thank them on their return from Bathurst.

Star Awards
Will M
Indianna M
Tiernan B
Kyeden B
Claire W
Reif D
Timothy V
Lacee B
Conor L
Tahla M
Shontalia D

Canteen News
Please check the school website for the current Canteen Roster if you are unsure of your rostered day. Some canteen prices have changed this year so please check the current 2016 pricelist (also available on St Mary’s website) for lunch orders.

Thank You. Donna

From Our Librarian
This week in the library we are viewing a text about the events in Jesus’ life that we remember and celebrate at Easter. For us as Catholics Easter it is the most important event in our Church calendar.

Children are continuing to borrow. Some of us may bring home a library print out of overdue books. Please help us find these and return them to the library. It is easy to keep library books with other books on our shelves at home. It is always a good idea to keep school library books in a special place.

It is great to see the number of children who have joined our Wyong Shire Library. Our local library provides a huge range of resources and plenty of holiday reading. All you need is a library card. There are always holiday activities at each of the branches for kids during the school holidays. Check out what is on at https://www.wyong.nsw.gov.au/my-community/libraries

Happy reading everyone
Miss Gray
Librarian

From Our Office
Thank you to all parents who have honoured their fee 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. To those families who have fallen behind with their payments, we ask that all arrangements be brought up to date as soon as possible.

We would like to wish all of our beautiful children & their families a very happy Easter.

Lyn, Jacqui & Leesa

Happy Easter!
**From Our PE Teacher**

**DIOCESAN SWIMMING MINGARA 8TH MARCH**
Congratulations to our St Mary’s competitors! We were the 3rd school in the Diocese in the overall pointscore. The following children are through to Polding at Homebush on 31st March – Natasha H, Joey F, Zander F, Josh B, Tahlia H, Noah S, Harper R, Alexis C and Josh H. Best wishes to you all!
Well Done to our relay teams and Maverick who swam well on the night narrowly missing out.

**MARK TAYLOR SHIELD CRICKET ROUND 1 – ST MARY’S SCORES HIGHEST RUN SCORE EVER**
St Mary’s put on a sizzling batting, bowling and fielding display at Harry Moore last week. Our cricket team were 5/159 defeating OLR The Entrance 10/60 at Harry Moore Oval.
Fynn N, Joseph M and Bailey L all retired at 30. After bowling 2 overs each Fynn N0/2, Joseph M 1/1, Cooper S 2/1, Obi M 2/1 and Bailey L 1/1. Keegan F took 2 catches.
In week 11 we play St Augustine’s Brookvale – 2015 winners of the Mark Taylor Shield – Good Luck St Mary’s.

**DIOCESAN WINTER SPORTS TRIALS**
Congratulations to **ALL** of the children who made the effort to try out for Diocesan Sports Teams.
We have a record number of children who qualified for these competitive teams and will compete in the Polding Trials later this year.

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator

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**Kids Club**
Kids Club will be open on the Pupil Free Day - Tuesday 29th March from 8am - 6pm. We will be going to Speers Point and Lambton Pools for the day. If you would like any more information about this day or would like to book in please call Tania on 0417 416 678 or call into the hall before or after school.

**Kids Club Vacation Care April 2016**
$10 Non refundable deposit per child per day. 2 weeks notice required for cancellations.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MON 11TH</th>
<th>TUE 12TH</th>
<th>WED 13TH</th>
<th>THURS 14TH</th>
<th>FRI 15TH</th>
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<tr>
<td>CANTON BEACH</td>
<td>KUNG FU PANDA</td>
<td>OAKVALE FARM</td>
<td>INFLATABLE WORLD</td>
<td>CLIP N CLIMB</td>
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<td>FUN DAY</td>
<td>3-TBA</td>
<td>Salt Ash</td>
<td>Charmhaven</td>
<td>How far can you</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Tug of war</td>
<td>Lake Haven Cinema</td>
<td>-Tractor Rides</td>
<td>indoor sports AND</td>
<td>climb 28 different</td>
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<td>-Thron of thong</td>
<td>Cinema and Long</td>
<td>-Reptile Show</td>
<td>Wyee Point Park</td>
<td>climbing walls to</td>
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<td>-Beach flags</td>
<td>Jetty Park</td>
<td>-Cow milking</td>
<td>for a scooter ride</td>
<td>try fun &amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Sand Sculpture</td>
<td>Bring you scooter</td>
<td>-Baby lamb</td>
<td>&amp; play in the park</td>
<td>challenging for</td>
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<td>Competition</td>
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<td>-Scavenger Hunt &amp;</td>
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<td>more</td>
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<td>kangaroos</td>
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<td>Park</td>
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<th>MON 18TH</th>
<th>TUE 19TH</th>
<th>WED 20TH</th>
<th>THURS 21ST</th>
<th>FRI 22ND</th>
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<tr>
<td>PIRATE TREASURE HUNT GAMES DAY - Harry Moore Oval</td>
<td>DRUMBALA</td>
<td>THE JUNGLE</td>
<td>MINGARA POOL</td>
<td>AUSTRALIAN</td>
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<td>Search for gold</td>
<td>Djebale drums &amp;</td>
<td>BOOK-TBA</td>
<td>POOL</td>
<td>WALKABOUT WILDLIFE PARK</td>
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<td>Find the treasure</td>
<td>percussion</td>
<td>Lakehaven Cinema</td>
<td>Come and have some</td>
<td>Bush Lesson work</td>
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<td>But first you need</td>
<td>instruments.</td>
<td>Then lunch and</td>
<td>fun in mingara pool</td>
<td>shop &amp; fun</td>
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<td>an eye patch hat</td>
<td>Followed by</td>
<td>play at the park</td>
<td>with their large</td>
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<td>telescope &amp; ......the map</td>
<td>Face painting,</td>
<td>(park TBA)</td>
<td>inflatable slide</td>
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<td>Sand Art</td>
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<td>Make Ochre paint</td>
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<td>Water fight games</td>
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<td>go on a bushwalk</td>
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<td>Find bushucker &amp;</td>
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458 Main Road, Noraville NSW 2263  Telephone: (02) 4396 5100  Email: smt@dbb.catholic.edu.au
Fax: (02) 4396 5101  Website: www.smtdbb.catholic.edu.au