Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

It’s hard to believe that it is enrolment time of the year again.

For those wanting to commence a child at our school next year, we have our Kinder 2017 Information Evening in the school’s Library at 7.00pm, Monday 4th April.

You are most welcome to join us.

About My Mum
I’d like to share with you a part of the eulogy from my Mum’s funeral yesterday:

“Life can be fragile and tenuous. So what did Mum teach us? She taught us that the secret of life is enjoying the passage of time. She taught us to be positive, hope-filled people. She taught us to have a smile on our face. She taught us to enjoy ourselves and to treat people well. She taught us to be accepting and inclusive of others. She taught us to laugh and not to take ourselves too seriously. She taught us the importance of being resilient and about being able to bounce back from the inevitable knocks that life brings.”

Thank You
We trust that you enjoyed the sensational Easter weather. Thank you for reorganising things to enable your child(ren) to be at home yesterday. We understand that it is not always easy to reorganise child-minding. The Writing Staff Development Day proved valuable professional learning for our teachers. Our Literacy Coaches, Mrs Hughes and Mrs Burns will have a further two days (today and tomorrow) of professional learning with the presenters in Sydney.

Mobile Phones
A reminder that mobile phones are not permitted at our school. If a parent believes their child requires a mobile phone please contact me to discuss the situation.

The Term’s End
Friday 8th April is the last day of the school term. Term 2 commences on Tuesday 26th April, remembering that ANZAC Day falls on the Monday.

Something We’ve Noticed
Our Holy Week Liturgy last week was a reflective and moving experience. The children’s retelling of the events of Holy Week, and their sense of reverence and participation was powerful.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Williams
Principal
Parish Details
4396 4455
www.toukeycatholic.org.au

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

Father Stephen Parish Priest
Father Michael

Uniform Shop News
The official day for change-over to our Winter Uniform this year will be Monday 16th May. To avoid the rush why not sort out your uniform purchases or lay-bys before the school holidays.

Uniforms can be ordered:
- Via the uniform shop (Mon, Wed, Fri 8.30-11am)
- Via the office, or
- Via phone/text (0402 311 749)

There are also lots of pre-loved winter uniform items available for purchase. Please label your uniform clearly, and don't forget to check lost property if you are missing an item.

From Our REC

Easter
The Easter Triduum, or Three Holy Days of Easter, begins the Easter Season. The next 50 days of Easter are an unbroken celebration of the risen Lord. We hope that all of our families enjoyed a restful and joyous Easter break and return to school renewed.

Stations of the Cross
A huge thank you to the children who participated in the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. Fr Stephen and parishioners commented on your reverence - well done! Also, big thanks to Naomi H, Wayne M and Kristina S for their organisation of the children in the practice and on the day. We appreciate everything you do!

First Eucharist
Enrolment forms have been sent home 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.

Mercy Mass
This Friday, April 1st, our Year 5 and 6 children will celebrate Mass around the theme of 'Mercy', with children in Year 5 and 6 from St Brendan's and some students from St Brigid's. Mass will take place in our church this Friday morning at 9.15am. Parents, you are warmly invited to share in the Eucharist with us.

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our Family Liaison Officer

This week I am including a link, KidsMatter Term 1 Newsletter which has some great information for parents. This term it includes articles on – Helping children become more confident Supporting your child’s learning Helping children develop decision making skills and Self-Motivation – why it matters

Anyone can sign up to receive the e-newsletter via e-mail, only once per term, and they always contain great information for parents/ carers.

Reminder that the Seasons for Growth permission slips need to be returned by next week. Tomorrow afternoon there is an information session for parents who would like to find out more about the programme at 2.30pm in the Staff Room

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
KidsMatter

“Social development involves learning the values, knowledge and skills that enable children to relate to others effectively and to contribute in positive ways to family, school and the community.”

The quote above is from this week’s KidsMatter article on Social Development.

Many outside influences such as family, friends, school, economic issues, etc, as well as a child’s age all play a part in children’s social development.

Over time children also develop social values such as an ability to understand others and learning to take the needs and views of others into account. They learn to make ethical judgements by practicing putting themselves in other’s shoes and reflecting on issues that involve social and moral values. It’s important for the adults around them to have discussions with children about the moral and social values they hold.

If not you, where will they get their values and morals from—the media, sporting identities, celebrities?

When given opportunities to develop social skills and shown positive examples from those around them, children’s social development grows and sets them up for positive relationships with peers and family.

From Our Librarian

CALLING FOR ALL LIBRARY BOOKS

We are now on the downhill run to the school holidays. Now is the time to hunt through shelves, under beds, in wardrobes and in toy boxes at home for any books or readers that belong to St Mary’s library. There are a number of children who still have two, three and even four books to return. Unlike the public library, our school borrowing has a weekly turn around so that books are due back the very next week. Children often talk about the books they have borrowed so that their books then become popular requests. Mums and Dads it would be a great help if you could join the search to make sure that all books are back over these next two weeks so our borrowing records are up to date.

And since we are so close to April have you read

April Fool!
by
Sue Prize

Happy reading everyone

Miss Gray
Librarian

From Our Office

A reminder that all ICAS notes need to be returned to school by this Thursday 31st March. If you would like your child/ren to sit one of the ICAS tests, you can download an application from the school website www.smtdbb.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you
Lyn, Jacqui & Leesa

Holy Week Liturgy

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

P&F News

Notes will be issued shortly regarding the P&F’s annual Mother’s Day Stall. Please note that orders and money need to be returned by Monday 2nd May.

Something We’ve Noticed

The ‘little things’ in our school count. One of them is our school uniform. Parents and carers, we appreciate the considerable lengths to which you have gone to ensure your child is dressed in the correct school uniform. It certainly makes a difference to our place.

Thank you.

From Our Office

A reminder that all ICAS notes need to be returned to school by this Thursday 31st March. If you would like your child/ren to sit one of the ICAS tests, you can download an application from the school website www.smtdbb.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you
Lyn, Jacqui & Leesa

Holy Week Liturgy
**From Our PE Teacher**

**CCC Cross Country**

I am awaiting final details for the day so permission notes will be out soon!

- Date of the carnival: Wednesday 4th of May 2016 (Term 2, Week 2)
- Date of back-up carnival: 16th of May
- Location: Mt. Penang Gardens, Kariong.
- Time: 9:45 am - 1:30 pm
- Cost $2 per student if travelling by car
- $6 per child if travelling by bus
- Top 10 children from 8yrs – 12yrs will be attending

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**Holy Week Liturgy**

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**Kids Club Vacation Care April 2016**

$10 Non refundable deposit per child per day. 2 weeks notice required for cancellations.

Please call Tania Wilson 0417 416 678

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<tr>
<td>CANTON BEACH FUN DAY</td>
<td>KUNG FU PANDA 3-TBA</td>
<td>OAKVALE FARM - Salt Ash</td>
<td>INFLATABLE WORLD</td>
<td>CLIP N CLIMB</td>
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<td>Tug of war</td>
<td>Lake Haven Cinema and Long Jetty Park</td>
<td>Charmhaven indoor sports AND Wyee Point Park for a scooter ride &amp; play in the park</td>
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<td>Thron of thong</td>
<td>Bring you scooter &amp; Helmet</td>
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<td>Beach flags</td>
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<td>Sand Sculpture Competition</td>
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<td>Scavenger Hunt &amp; more</td>
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<th>MON 18TH</th>
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<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 Search for gold Find the treasure But first you need an eye patch hat telescope &amp; ........the map</td>
<td>DRUMBALA Djembe drums and percussion instruments. Followed by Face painting, Sand Art Water fight games</td>
<td>THE JUNGLE BOOK-TBA LakeHaven Cinema Then lunch and play at the park (park TBA)</td>
<td>MINGARA POOL Come and have some fun in mingara pool with their large inflata-ble slide</td>
<td>AUSTRALIAN WALKABOUT WILDLIFE PARK Bush Lesson workshop &amp; fun Aboriginal activities Make Ochre paint go on a bushwalk Find bush tucker &amp; try aboriginal medicine</td>
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