Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

Please join us as we celebrate Our Lady Help of Christians Feast with Mass at 9.15am on Friday 27th May. Our Celebration Team 3 has organised a variety of fun activities for the children during the day. Our P+F are kindly organising a BBQ lunch for the children and we conclude our celebrations with our annual game of touch between Year 6 and the Teachers. You’re also welcome to join us at 2.20pm for the Touch match. I kindly ask that all children wear their sports uniform on Friday.

Athletics Carnival
Please join us on Monday at Mingara for our Athletics Carnival. In the spirit of supporting each other’s efforts for the duration of the day, all children are expected to be present until the Carnival’s conclusion.

School Review
When the formal School Review Report is published, I will share its findings with you. What I can share with you at this stage is that the panel were thrilled with the children at our school. They noted that our children were engaged, positive and full of joy. The panel also commented on the strong level of parent engagement. They made special comment of the parents’ grateful attitude. Also pleasing was the panel’s insight into the dedication and professionalism of our staff.

I read something recently which noted that we are much more effective together than we are separately. In valuing the gifts of our children, parents and staff, we are much more effective in collaboration with each other.

Kinder 2017
If you are interested in enrolling your child for Kinder 2017 enrolment packages are now available at our school’s office. Please complete them and, upon returning them, organise a time for your meeting.

Upcoming Sporting Events
On Tuesday we have a great little team of Cross Country runners who will be competing at the Broken Bay level. Then on Thursday we have 4 teams competing in the Rugby League Gala Day, two teams in the 10’s and two teams in the Opens. Good luck to all these competitors and we know you will enjoy yourselves. Have fun and do your very best.

First Eucharist
The celebration of this beautiful sacrament is fast approaching. We look forward to this group of children, predominantly Year 4, sharing this day with their families and friends. Further details of the Mass on Sunday May 29th and the important practice session are provided inside this newsletter.

National Simultaneous Storytime
Next Wednesday our school will be participating in this annual event. Miss Gray and the other teachers at our school love the chance to share a good book with the kids. Be sure to ask your child on Wednesday afternoon what they enjoyed most about it.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Williams
Principal

Amarli & Hayley  5 Gold
First Eucharist
This weekend the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist have their family Commitment Mass. This will be in addition to a practice which will be held next Tuesday afternoon at 4pm in the church. Children will make the Sacrament next weekend, 29th May, at 9am here at St Mary’s.

School Feast Day
We celebrate our school feast day, Mary Help of Christians, with a mass and activity day next Friday 27th May. Mass will begin at 9.15am, followed by recess before students move to some fun activities around the school. Activities will include novelty games, sporting activities and Mary reflection areas, which a team of teachers is spending a great deal of time organising. Activities will be followed by a BBQ lunch provided by our fantastic P&F. Please let me know if any parents are able to volunteer to help in any way! We would love to see parents attend our Mass.

Winter Appeal
Our 2016 Winter Appeal has begun! Our Mini Vinnies students will be hard at work over the remainder of the term collecting items donated to the school. We ask families, before the end of Term 2, to please donate any tinned goods, jumpers and blankets.

Parent/ Carers Walking Group
Picking up from last year a parent/carers walking group will be starting next week. Each Wednesday, after morning assembly, all who are interested are invited to join in. Whether it be for fitness, social activity, with prams or without, everyone is welcome. Please meet Leesa Sternbeck at the top gates near the Year 1 classrooms when assembly has finished.

Our Athletics Carnival next Monday is always a great day for not just the students but parents/carers as well. It is always great to have so many parents/carers helping out and cheering their children on during the day.

It’s also a great opportunity to help the children practice some essential social and emotional skills. While it’s fun for all the kids, not everyone can come first or have things go their way all the time and some might find that difficult to deal with. Being there with them means parents/carers can help children, particularly our youngest students, to learn about sportsmanship, following directions and dealing with disappointments. By teaching them to keep things in perspective and focus on participation and fun we can help build their resilience and coping skills.

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our REC

From Our Family Liaison Officer

Parish Details
4396 4455
www.toukleycatholic.org.au

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

Father Stephen Parish Priest
Father Michael

Merit Awards
Will M
Summer M
Brody A
Nova B
Portia R
Levi J
Zach M
Harry H
Matthew P
Florence M
Maverick E
Kiara C
Zac H
Max H
Connor M
Isabella P
Cooper J
Keun J
Ari S
Darcy R
Joseph M
Shannon R
Brooke E
Jasmine H
Summer H
Will H
Brayden H
Isabella B
Jeremy B
Thomas L
Flynn R

If you or your children have outgrown anything that is still in good condition, please donate! Although we ask for donations of clothing items that have been pre-worn, please ensure that they do not have rips or stains, as they will be new clothes for people in our local community. Your donations are appreciated.

The 2016 Winter Appeal has begun!!!
**KidsMatter**

Our own thoughts about our abilities and achievements can have a profound effect on how we feel and behave. This is especially true for children who are still learning to self regulate and negative self talk can take a very big toll on their emotions and self esteem.

This week’s newsletter article, “How thinking affects feelings” has some very useful information about how the significant adults in children’s lives can help them learn to identify and then overcome negative thoughts.

For children, learning how to see situations as learning experiences or an immediate challenge to be overcome rather than as catastrophes or “always” situations is a significant part of their social and emotional development.

Having positive thoughts and being able to see the bright side of a situation leads to better mental health outcomes for children and adults alike. Having adults around them modelling positive self talk and behaviour is the best way for children to learn these skills.

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**Star Awards**

Rose D  
Thomas B  
Luca K  
Theresa D  
Indy K  
Olivia C  
Clayton B  
Halle O  
Mia C  
Harley K  
Maya B  
Grace H  
Isla A  
Laura E  
Maddison S  
Mackenzie F  
Rose P

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**Uniform Shop News**

The shop will not be open Monday 23rd May due to the athletics carnival.

The children look great in their winter uniforms.

The lost property box is overflowing once again with unlabelled jackets. Please remember to label all uniform items with your child’s name.

****NEWS FLASH****

Over the next few weeks you may see a pop-up stall of pre-loved items on Tuesday mornings before assembly. Grab a bargain. CASH ONLY.

For uniform enquiries please call Julie on 0402 311 749.

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**From Our Office**

Please be reminded that any form of medication cannot be brought to school by students. Where possible the medication should by administered at home rather than school. If medication must be administered at school a “Request for Administration of Medication Form” must be completed by both a parent and the student’s Doctor before school staff are able to administer the medication. You can find a copy of this form on our school’s website or pick one up at the office. This is Catholic Schools Office requirement.

Lyn, Jacqui & Leesa

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From Our PE Teacher

**School Banking News**
Due to the athletics carnival next week, students should bring in their banking wallets on Tuesday instead. Wallets will be returned later in the week. Remember to claim your rewards once you have collected 10 Silver tokens (1 Gold token). New rewards items available this term:

- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag

Every student who makes 15 deposits before the end of Term 3 receives automatic entry to the Grand Prize competition (VIP Tour of Australia Zoo to meet Robert and Bindi Irwin).

**Canteen News**
Soup this Friday, May 20th is Minestrone. Due to a large number of changes, a new volunteer roster is now available on the school website.

**DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY**
Best wishes to our Cross Country Runners who have qualified for the Diocesan Cross Country next week at Galston. The following children had outstanding results at Mt Penang a couple of weeks ago and will be running again.

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<td>Brodie S 2nd</td>
<td>Josh B 1st</td>
<td>Isaak B 17th</td>
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<td>Mia T 1st</td>
<td>Josh H 2nd</td>
<td>Joey F 1st</td>
<td>Zander F 2nd</td>
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<td>Ryan C 13th</td>
<td>Jessica B 14th</td>
<td>Maddison S 5th</td>
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<td>Keegan F 9th</td>
<td>Tallin K 14th</td>
<td>Will B 10th</td>
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<td>Molly B 18th</td>
<td>Zoe J 4th</td>
<td>Zac B 12th</td>
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**ST MARY’S ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**
Prayers for good weather please!!!! I have a sheet with timetable, map and parents jobs. It is ready to come home to parents. Please remember all children must stay until the conclusion of the carnival at 2pm.

**CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT RUGBY LEAGUE**
Thursday 26th May Darren Kennedy Oval.

**Stories by the beach**
Enjoy Stories, Friendship, Beautiful Food, Christian Meditation, Prayer & Reflection
ON FRIDAY, 27th of MAY
AT CATHERINE HILL BAY SURF CLUB, FLOWERS DRIVE
CATHERINE HILL BAY
FROM 9 a.m. FOR COFFEE STARTING AT 9.30 - 2.00
R.S.V.P: jo.speke@dbb.catholic.edu.au and include your school name

"Come away and rest a while"  Mark 6:31
2016 Year of Mercy