Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

The Diocesan Parent Education Team is leading the Parent Workshop on Wednesday 3rd August with sessions being offered at 9.15am and 6.30pm. This session will support social and emotional learning in the home and the content covered includes: social and emotional stages of development; brain development and learning; how to develop your child’s social and emotional skills at home and putting strategies into action. Child minding is available.

You are most welcome to join us.

P+F Meeting
Our term’s P+F Meeting is also on Wednesday 3rd August. The altered starting time for our meeting is 5.45pm. We will be meeting in our school’s Library.

Grandparents’ Day
A reminder that our Grandparents’ Day Liturgy commences in the Church at 10.15am on Friday. A cake and a cup of tea for our guests follows at 11.00am. We’d love it if our grandparents (and parents) could join their grandchildren at morning tea. At 11.25am our grandparents are welcome to visit their grandchildren’s classrooms.

Class Parent Meeting
Our next meeting for Class Parents is on Tuesday 2nd August at 2.30pm. We will be meeting in our staffroom.

Year 1 Excursion
We wish our Year 1 well for their excursion to The Reptile Park on Thursday 4th August.

Confirmation Information Session
The information session for parents/carers of children wishing to be enrolled for the Sacrament of Confirmation is at 4.00pm on Thursday 4th August in our Church.

Book Week Parade
Please note a change of date in our Term Calendar on the school’s website. The amended date for our school’s Book Week Parade is Tuesday 30th August at 9.15am.

CCC Athletics
Under the guidance of Mrs Bain, our school has the responsibility of organising the upcoming CCC Athletics Carnival. The carnival is at Mingara on Friday 5th August.

Important Term 4 Dates
Wednesday 14th December:
K-6 Awards Ceremony
Wednesday 14th December:
Year 6 Graduation at Halekulani
Friday 16th December:
Thanksgiving Mass

Kind Regards,

Kevin Williams
Principal
Sacrament of Confirmation
The Parish Enrolment Form for children wishing to make the Sacrament of Confirmation (Baptised children in Year 2 and above who have not yet made this sacrament) were sent home last Friday. These forms contain all of the information regarding the dates of classes and the compulsory information meeting (next Thursday 4th Aug at 4pm in the church). Completed enrolment forms must be taken to the information meeting next Thursday afternoon. If you have not received a form, please call the office for a copy. Please note, the Bishop’s Office has required a change of date for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament will now be held on 23rd October at 11.00am. If you have any questions or you would like to discuss your own personal circumstances regarding the sacraments, please call me in the office.

Grandparents’ Day Liturgy
This Friday we will be holding our second annual Grandparent’s Liturgy at 10.15am in the church. Time has been scheduled for grandparents to share morning tea with their grandchild at 11.00am before a visit to their grandchild’s classroom (11.25am-11.45am). This is a great chance for children who have a grandparent nearby to show their Nan, Pop, Grandma or Grandpa their classroom and to celebrate them in a liturgy. Please join us.

Term 3 - Dates for the Calendar
Friday 29th July: Grandparents Day Liturgy, 10.15am
Monday 15th August: Assumption Mass, 9.15am
Friday 2nd September: Father’s Day Mass, 9.15am
Wednesday 14th September: Volunteer’s Liturgy 10.30am
Term 4 Sunday 23rd October: Sacrament of Confirmation 11.00am.

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our REC

From Our Family Liaison Officer

Please find following some useful information about local, free community financial services.

Toukley Neighbourhood Centre
Phone 4396 1555
Financial counselling and workshops.

NILS Programme—No Interest Loans Scheme for household items, some medical and dental services, educational requirements like laptops or textbooks for qualifying low income earners, Health Care/ Pension Card holders.

Louise House, 126 Dudley St Gorokan
Phone 4392 7255  Budget planning and financial counselling.

Saver Plus Programme
Phone Geoff Hynd on 4333 8061, 0428 282 900  Join Saver Plus and match your savings dollar for dollar up to $500 for educational costs. More information is on our school website via the link “Saver Plus”.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
**KidsMatter**

Emotional Intelligence, EI, is the ability to recognize, understand and manage our own emotions and to also recognize, understand and influence the emotions of others. It determines how we self regulate and deal with others in social/ work situations.

It is now widely recognised that an individual’s EI can have a huge impact on their success in school, work and life. The more developed a person’s EI, the better able they are to manage difficulties and perform under pressure as well as being better able to get along with others. Emotional Intelligence is a trait that employers are now actively looking for in potential employees.

**From Our Librarian**

Pig was a Pug
And I’m sorry to say,
He would often tell lies
Just to get his own way.

This week in the library Kinder and Year 1 are reading **Pig the Fibber** by Aaron Blabey. We follow the antics of Pig as he gets into mischief and tries to blame poor Trevor. Kindy are making Pig the Pug and Year 1 are making Trevor the sausage dog. I wonder if Pig will ever learn...

‘Yours is a different kind of strength,’ said Eagle.
‘And no one can stop you believing you are as powerful as an eagle on the inside. But you’ll never find our without trying.’

Years 2 - 6 are reading **The Eagle Inside** by Jack Manning Bancroft. We are identifying how the events of the story can occur in our own lives. We are also discussing what the author’s message is for us and what we can learn from this story.

Many children have borrowed library books over the holidays and these are now due back in the library. You can help by checking children’s book shelves at home and popping these into school bags so they make it back into the library.

Many thanks for your support in this.

And have your read...?

Hot Dog! by Frank Furter

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.

Thank you
Lyn, Jacqui & Leesa

The Social and Emotional skills that are needed to promote Emotional Intelligence develop in children in different stages and can be actively cultivated by parents/carers at home. Children learning to manage their emotional response to events by activating the rational/logical part of their brain is something they learn with experience and practice.

Our Term 3 Parent Workshop, “The Power of Social and Emotional Skills for Children’s Learning” on August 3rd, will be a very informative and practical presentation dealing with children’s Social and Emotional skills and how they impact on wellbeing, relationships, responsibility and empathy. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend.

Uniform Shop News

**Lay by now for summer**
The change-over to summer uniform will be Week 9 of this term.
Do you need new summer uniforms???

P&F News

Father’s Day Stall order forms will be issued shortly. The stall is scheduled for Week 7 of this term.
We ask for your assistance in returning the note by the due date.

School Banking News

**New rewards this term**
Jump and Skip Rope and Backtrack Eraser Pen.

**Term 3 Competition**
Make 3 or more School Banking deposits this term for a chance to win. Great prizes include: camping kits, magazine packs & instant cameras.

Something We’ve Noticed

When new children start at our school, we’ve noticed the kind and welcoming manner displayed by their classmates.

**Star Awards**

Mayah H
Blake C
Ryan G
Patrick C
Charlie T
Tara T
Elly S
Ruby R
Sienna S
Isabella D
Navayah A
Layla H
Liam I
Shontalia D
Tahlia H
Declan P
Laura E
Thomas L
Charlotte D
Rose P

Happy reading everyone!

Miss Gray
Librarian
Canteen News
Soup this Friday, July 29th is Minestrone.

The Term 3 Canteen Roster is available on our school website if you are unsure of your rostered day.

From Our PE Teacher

NSW ALL SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY – MIA T, ZANDER F, JOEY F
Congratulations Mia T on placing 38th in the All Schools Cross Country – Mia had been battling the flu all week - she competed and gave it everything in the wet at Eastern Creek and for that we are very proud.
Joey and Zander came up against some very tough competition and gave their best in the tough conditions to come 12th and 7th respectively.

GOOD LUCK TO MADIE S AND TALIA H – competing this week as members of the Polding Netball team competing at the NSW All Schools Netball Titles at Albury.

CONGRATULATIONS ST MARY’S NETBALL TEAMS – St Mary’s had 5 teams competing in the Regional titles for the NSW Cup at Newcastle last week.
The girls played with great teamwork and St Mary’s Spirit – Our Lions Team has made it to the next round at Maitland on the 8th August.

Rugby Union now Monday 1st August at Carrington St Narara

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator