Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Peter at 11.00am on Sunday 23rd October. For those parents/carers seeking enrolment for their children into the Confirmation preparation program, a compulsory meeting will be held in the Church at 4.00pm tomorrow, Thursday 4th August. Baptised children from Year 2 and above are welcome to be enrolled. Enrolment forms that were sent home last Friday need to be completed and returned at Thursday’s meeting.

Parent Workshop - Tonight
The Diocesan Parent Education Team is leading the Parent Workshop tonight at 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 - Tonight
Our term’s P+F Meeting is also on tonight. The altered starting time for our meeting is 5.45pm. We will be meeting in our school’s Library.

Grandparents’ Day
It was such an uplifting experience to have so many grandparents join us last Friday. The children were so excited to see their grandparents. The looks on their faces were priceless. Likewise, the grandparents were so proud of their grandchildren and enjoyed visiting their classrooms.

A beautiful liturgy, a cake and a cuppa together with open classrooms ensured it was a fitting way to celebrate the importance of our grandparents.

Choral Day
Our choir is currently preparing themselves for the upcoming Choral Day. Choirs from all Catholic primary schools on the coast gather to celebrate the gift of song. The Choral Day is on Friday 19th August at St Peter’s Catholic College, Tuggerah.

Year 1 Excursion
We wish our Year 1 well for their excursion to The Reptile Park tomorrow.

CCC Athletics
Good luck to our athletes competing at the CCC Athletics Carnival on Friday at Mingara.

The Olympics
Many messages of encouragement and support from the children together with a special whole school photo have been sent to Matt Dawson in Rio. Miss Dawson’s (K Green) brother, Matt is representing Australia in the men’s hockey team, the Kookaburras.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Williams
Principal
Grandparents’ Day Liturgy
The feeling in our school last Friday was absolutely electric. The liturgy was such a beautiful way to celebrate the gift of grandparents and I thank all of the grandparents who were able to join us for the morning. I know many of you had travelled a great distance to join us. The proud look on the faces of your grandchildren was priceless. It was so special to watch as children shared morning tea and conversations with their grandparents and showed them around their playground. In the open classrooms it was hard to tell who was more pleased and excited to be there; the children showing their work or the grandparents who could appreciate their hard work. A huge thank you to everyone who was able to join us, it was such a beautiful day with such a happy atmosphere. We look forward to next year!!

Sacrament of Confirmation
For those children preparing to make the Sacrament of Confirmation on 23rd October (at 11.00am), please attend the compulsory information afternoon this Thursday 4th Aug at 4pm in the church. Please take your completed enrolment form along with you, in addition to the $40 payment. If you have any questions or you would like to discuss your own personal circumstances regarding the sacraments, please call me in the office.

Assumption Mass
Please join us on Monday 15th August as we celebrate the Mass of the Assumption at 9.15am. Our Father’s Day Mass will be held on Friday 2nd September at 9.15am.

Emma Sellars
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our REC

Parent Resource Library
Some great new books have been added to our Parent Resource Library in the past week. All resources are available for any parent/ carer to borrow. New titles include “Thriving! Raising Exceptional kids with confidence, character and resilience”, “Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It” and “One Step Ahead, Raising 3 to 12 year olds” all by Michael Grose.

There are also titles dealing with anxiety such as “Why Smart Kids Worry and What Parents Can Do To Help”, “The Opposite of Worry, the Playful Parenting Approach to Childhood Anxieties and Fears” and “What to do when you worry too much—A kids guide to overcoming anxiety”.

Other titles include “Permission to Parent, How to Raise your child with Love and Limits”, “Beautiful Failures” and “Raising Your Child in a Digital World”.

Please feel free to see me at any time if you are interested in borrowing a book or CD.

Donna Falzon
**KidsMatter**

The 5 Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) skill areas that children need to develop are—

Parents/ carers have a critical role to play in guiding and supporting children’s social and emotional development.

**From Our Librarian**

“Hey there, guys. Would you like a banana?”

“What’s wrong with you, Brian? You’re a piranha!”

This week in the library Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 are reading *Piranha’s Don’t Eat Bananas* by Aaron Blabey. Brian is trying to encourage the school of piranhas to eat a healthier diet. We are all colouring a piranha to create our response to this cleverly written book. Considering Blabey’s humour and playful rhyming text I would recommend this book for your bookshelves at home.

*Ricardo loved to ride his bike through the village. His silver handlebars sparkled like fresh snow in sunshine. He rode under endless open skies, quiet and clear. As he rode his father would clap and say, ‘Ride, Ricardo, ride!’*

Years 3 - 6 are reading *Ride, Ricardo, ride!* by Phil Cummings. Ricardo liked nothing better than the feeling of riding his bicycle through his village and the folk encouraging on his journey. Sadly war comes and Ricardo’s life changes dramatically. His bicycle is taken apart and hidden from the soldiers. This week Years 3 - 6 are writing rhyming couplets to capture the storyline of this text.

We have a number of new books in the library. Our joke book collection is especially popular and has been added to. So….from our *Best Ever Aussie Jokes* ...

*Why do maths teachers make excellent detectives?*  
They’re good at putting two & two together.  
**AND**...  
*Why was 5 afraid of 6?*  
Because 7, 8, 9!!

Happy reading everyone!  
Miss Gray

**From Our Office**

This information is disclosed to ACARA under the *ACARA Act 2008* for one or both of the following purposes:  
• formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and  
• assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.  
ACARA will not disclose this personal information to any third party.  
If you do not want your school to provide this information to ACARA, please advise your school within seven (7) days of receiving this notice.  
Further information about ACARA can be obtained from the ACARA website at www.acara.edu.au.

**Something We’ve Noticed**

At the morning tea for our grandparents last Friday, the cake must have been delicious. One of the granddads confessed to having devoured a couple of slices.

**Star Awards**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will M</th>
<th>Thomas B</th>
<th>Joey T</th>
<th>Darcy N</th>
<th>Will S</th>
<th>Bailey F</th>
<th>Isaac R</th>
<th>Mia M</th>
<th>Zac H</th>
<th>Abby L</th>
<th>Jayden F</th>
<th>Jeweliel M</th>
<th>Zoe M</th>
<th>Lucy A</th>
<th>Nate R</th>
<th>Max H</th>
<th>Owen H</th>
<th>Brooke E</th>
<th>James V</th>
<th>Tahlee M</th>
<th>Mackenzie F</th>
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**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.

**PRIVACY NOTICE**

Information required to determine the *Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage* (ICSEA) for schools  
This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that ACARA has requested your child’s school to provide ACARA with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child’s gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, parental occupation and parental education.
From Our PE Teacher

**NSW ALL SCHOOLS NETBALL**
Congratulations Maddie S and Tahlia H on a successful NSW All Schools Netball Competition in chilly Albury last week. The Polding team which the girls were a part of came 3rd overall. Both girls are extremely talented netballers and have loved the experience, learnt valuable life skills and made friends for the future.

**CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT RUGBY UNION COMPETITION**
Congratulations to our Rugby Union team who participated in a Gala Day at Narara last Monday. The boys made the Semi Final which they lost to the eventual winners of the day.

**2016 CCC Athletics**
Thankyou to the wonderful parents who have offered to assist. Could you please at Mingara by 8am to get ready for an 8.30 start.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUDGES</th>
<th>BBQ – Julie Anderson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kate Henry</td>
<td>Amy Jones – Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tammy Cross</td>
<td>Trish Hopkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanessa Freeman</td>
<td>Leesa Sternbeck</td>
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</tbody>
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**TIMEKEEPERS**
Kate Toweel
Col Wall
Trudi Williams
Laura Barnfield

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**For Fun, Fitness, Friendship**
**McDonalds Tennis Academy**
Ray St. Toukley
4333 3380

- Free Junior Racquet for new enrolments—$39.95 Value!
- Tini-Tots Program 5—9 years
- Tennis Australia “Hot Shots” Program
- Junior Squads : Junior Comps
- Private and Semi-private lessons
- School Holiday Camps: Social Play

You’re Gonna Love it!