Dear St Mary’s Catholic School Community,

**Feast of the Assumption**
Please join us as we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption with Mass at 9.15am on Monday 15th August. Your presence always adds to the sense of gathering experienced in the Mass.

**Champion Netballers**
Congratulations to our Girls Senior Netball Team who competed in the NSW Netball Schools Cup yesterday in Maitland. After recently winning the Newcastle division of the competition, our girls progressed to the Hunter Regional Final. After early wins of 23-8, 28-0 and 21-2 the girls qualified for the semi-finals. In the semi we defeated The Junction 18-9. The girls’ superb form continued in the final as we defeated Cole Point 22-3. A very pleasing aspect of the day was that the girls’ attitude and sense of fair play were exceptional. Well done Maddie S, Tahlia H, Megan P, Isabell B, Ruby W, Ellie W, Molly B, Mackenzie F, Tessa H and Coach, Leesa Sternbeck.

**Tree Planting**
We thank Bunnings Lakehaven who kindly donated a variety of plants that have been located in the small garden area outside our ASPECT rooms. Yesterday, Bunnings staff helped our ASPECT children and some St Mary’s children plant the trees. Bunnings also donated some gardening equipment to our school.

**CCC Athletics**
Our school was responsible for organising last Friday’s CCC Athletics Carnival at Mingara. Despite the early drizzle, it was a successful day. We particularly thank Mrs Bain for her tremendous organisation of the event, capably supported by Mrs Doyle, Mr Merlino, Mrs Hartge, Mrs Perry, Mrs Kyle and Miss McNeill. We were very proud of the effort, performances and encouraging attitude of our athletes.

Our school placed 2nd overall from the 11 competing Catholic schools. Congratulations girls and boys!

**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 (again) for their excursion to The Reptile Park on Friday.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Williams
Principal
Sacrament of Confirmation
Please keep the many children in Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 who are currently preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation in your prayers and thoughts. These children are currently in the process of attending a series of parish-run classes with their parents to assist in their preparation. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held here at St Mary’s Church on 23rd October at 11.00am.

Upcoming Masses
Please join us next 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

Catechists Needed
Hi, my name is Mandy Carrigan (a parent at St Brendan’s) and I am seeking volunteers who have one hour a week to assist our Religious Education Teachers in our local public schools. Experience is not necessary just a desire to assist a teacher in a classroom environment. If you are happy to help or you have any questions, please contact me on 0404 669 927. Thank you.

Maths Puzzler:
‘Mindreading Maths’
- Think of a number
- Double it
- Add 10
- Halve it
- Take away your original number
- Is your answer 5?
Try it with a different number. Did you get a different result? Why does this happen?

From Our Family Liaison Officer
Coming home with today’s newsletter is a flyer for both a parent programme and a Literacy presentation running in some of our Central Coast Schools.

123 Magic & Emotion Coaching is a great programme we have previously run here at St Mary’s and would be a perfect follow up to last week’s SEL Parent Presentation. It will be held at both Mackillop College at Warnervale starting next week and St Patricks at East Gosford in September.

The Literacy Workshop for parents is presented by Jane Denny, Literacy Education Officer at the CSO. It is being held at both OLR, Wyoming and St John Fisher, Tumbi Umbi next week.

You can RSVP or find out more information about both presentations on St Mary’s website by using the link here.

It is great to see so many parents borrowing from the Parent Resource Library over the past week. It is available for all parents/carers so please have a look and feel free to borrow.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
KidsMatter

What does Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) have to do with school? Research has shown that children’s learning is influenced by a range of social and emotional factors. How well children do at school is affected by things such as:
- how confident children feel about their abilities
- how effectively they are able to manage their own behavior
- how well they can concentrate and organize themselves
- how effectively they can solve problems
- how positively they are able to get on with teaching staff and with peers
- how effectively they take into account other’s needs
- how well they can understand and accept responsibilities

Social and Emotional skills help children cope with difficulties and disappointments and help to prevent mental health problems. At school SEL is taught both explicitly, through our BounceBack programme in PDHPE and implicitly, through the example staff set in the many daily interactions with students. Children learn Social and Emotional skills most effectively when they are also reinforced at home.

Please use the link “Social and Emotional Learning” to find out more and discover SEL strategies for parents/carers to use at home in everyday interactions with their children.

From Our Librarian

What does it mean to ‘be in a huff’? What sorts of things can put you in a bad mood?

What is the day like when you wake up grumpy?

This week in the library Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 are reading Mr Huff by Anna Walker. Bill, the character in our story, wakes up in a bad mood and this takes the shape of Mr Huff. The worse Bill feels the bigger Mr Huff grows. However, Mr Huff helps Bill to see things differently and with each happy thought Mr Huff grows smaller. We all have a similar Mr Huff inside ourselves and it is important that we focus on the positive things in our lives. A good exercise for children is to think or write three good things that happen to them each day. This might be something your family shares around your dinner table this week.

Eva squeezed Suri’s hand. ‘What’s there? What can you see?’

‘What can I see?’ Suri looked out over the wall.

‘Oh, it’s beautiful, let me tell you all about it.’ Years 3 - 6 are reading Suri’s Wall! by Lucy Estella. Suri lives with other orphaned children behind a huge wall. Suri is teased because she is taller than the others. One day she realises that she can finally see over the wall and the children, who are eager to discover what lies over the other side, ask her to tell them. Her descriptions change her relationship with the children. However the reality of the ruined city she can see beyond the wall is very different from the hopeful scenes she describes to the children.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all of our parents who helped us cover the hundreds of new books we received last week. These new books go straight into circulation for our children to read in guided reading time. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Happy reading everyone!
Miss Gray

From Our Office

Student Travel Leave

If you are planning to take your child out of school for 10 school days or more for the purpose of travelling in Australia or overseas then we ask that you complete an Application for Extended Leave and provide copies of travel details. This form is available at the school office or can be downloaded from the school website by clicking above. Once this form has been received and the leave has been approved by Mr Williams, we will provide you with a certificate to carry with you whilst travelling.

Thanking you,
Lyn, Jacqui & Leesa

Something We’ve Noticed

In a feat ‘rivaling’ our Olympians in Rio, Will Millington (KGold) has equalled the St Mary’s Clinker’s record. Will guessed correctly 6 times, with on each occasion nominating green as the colour. The Clinker’s World Record is held by a student from St Pat’s East Gosford, who in 2001 guessed correctly on 9 occasions.

Star Awards

Jonah M
Hudson D
Florence M
Tyson S
Olivia C
Jack M
Kiara L
Indianna J
Caitlin W
Rylin D
Max H
Kristal L
Isla A
Tahlia P
Milly H
Alexi B

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???

School Banking

Keep saving to discover the Prize Lights!
Simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3 for a chance to win one of the Star Saver Frequent Filmgoer Prizes, including camping kits, instant cameras and KidsMatter magazine packs.
What’s more, if you complete the fun Stargazing online activity, along with making three or more deposits during Term 3, you’ll also have the chance to win one of 50 Supernova prize packs, making three or more deposits during Term 3.

To complete your Stargazing online activity, or to find out more, visit commbank.com.au/prizelights
Canteen News
Soup this Friday, August 12th is Pumpkin.

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

P&F News
You should now have received a note about the upcoming Father’s Day Stall (Week 7). Please complete and return as soon as possible to assist the P&F run as efficient an event as possible.

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!

From Our PE Teacher

NSW NETBALL – REGIONAL FINALS – MAITLAND – WINNERS – OFF TO NSW FINAL
The amazing St Mary’s Lions put together 5 convincing wins with perfect teamwork
STM VS KING ST – 23 – 8; STM VS NORTHLAKES 28 – 0; STM VS DUDLEY 21 – 2; SEMI
STM VS JUNCTION 24 – 2; FINAL STM VS COAL POINT 22 - 3
Congratulations – Megan, Maddie, Ellie, Tessa, Isabell, Molly, Mackenzie, Ruby and Tahlia.

CCC ATHLETICS
What a cold, wet and miserable day for an Athletics Carnival!
St Mary’s convened the Carnival this year, which is a huge job and requires the support of staff, students and parents to ensure it is a success.
Our parents were absolutely amazing – I think every parent that was present was either working on the track or the BBQ.
Julie Anderson and her team of helpers cooked about 500 sausages and 300 Bacon and Egg rolls – a huge job, they fed all the workers as well as hungry children and parents.
The parents who worked on the track as timekeepers, judges, finish line and discus recorders did an epic job.
There were many changes and issues which required flexibility, patience and good humour and you had these in spades!
Thank you everyone!

ST MARY’S CAME 2ND OVERALL – CONGRATULATIONS ALL ATHLETES!!!!!
I was very proud of every child who gave their best all day.
We have a number of children through to the Diocesan Carnival coming 1st – 4th in their finals.
Mia C – 100m, 200m, relay, LJ; Mia T – 800m; Zac B– 800m; Maddie S – 800m, Kiarra L – 100m; Keegan F – HJ, LJ, 100m; Marea P– relay, 100m; Tayte B– 100m; Tahlia H – 200m, shotput, discus, HJ; Grace H – 200m, discus, shotput; Josh B – 100m; Taalirah G – relay, HJ, relay; Grace J – relay; Bailey L - discus.

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator