



A Great Start

Upcoming Events

- *Year 6 Sacred Space*
1.50pm
Thursday
7 February
- *Welcome Evening-
Meet the Teacher*
5.30pm
Wednesday
13 February
- *Opening School
Mass*
9.15am
Friday
15 February
- *Swimming Carnival*
Monday
18 February
- *Kinder Parent Night*
6.00pm
Tuesday
19 February
- *Enrolment for
Sacrament of
Reconciliation*
3.30pm or 7.00pm
Thursday
21 February
- *Staff Development
Days*
Monday + Tuesday
4 + 5 March
- *School Cross
Country*
*Jenny Dixon
Reserve*
Friday
8 March

All relevant school notes and letters are posted on our website. Please click [here](#) to access our school's website.

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,
We've had a fun start to the school year. Our Year 1- Year 6 commenced last Thursday with their well presented uniforms (thanks parents) and wonderful smiles. The first day of school is such an exciting one. The children come in the gate and huge smiles spread across their faces as they recognise a friend they haven't caught up with for a while. And within minutes, it's the normal friends' routines: standing around talking, playing handball, sitting in their favourite part of the playground, having a laugh etc. All the while our Kinders who hadn't started yet were champing at the bit. "I can't wait for Monday," was repeatedly said.

And then Monday came and our Kinders commenced 'big school'. Dressed beautifully in new uniforms and dwarfed by their school bags, our Kinders were wide eyed, amazed and eager to soak it all in. Many family members joined us as we welcomed them. Our Kinders have made a very calm and settled start to school life.

New Students

We are pleased to welcome the following children who are new to our school and started in classes older than Kinder.

Vanessa M (2 Blue), Emily C (5 Green), Callum S (5 Blue), Charlie S (3 Gold), Alice N (3 Green), Ellie M (1 Green), Lachlan M (4 Green) and Addison P (1 Blue).

We trust that your time with us is filled with great learning and many friendships.

School Uniform

Just a reminder regarding last week's School Uniform Letter. All children need to have the appropriate black leather school shoes and correct socks by the end of Week 4. Children in Years 1-5 need to have the correct school bag by that same time. Please check our school's website.

Meet the Teacher Evening

On Wednesday 13th February we are hosting a Welcome Evening ("Meet the Teacher"). It is for all families and is a chance to meet your child's teacher in an

informal, relaxed environment. Families are asked to bring along a picnic-style dinner to enjoy on the oval (much like the Christmas Carols) with the event beginning at 5.30pm.

Kinder Literacy and Information Evening

We are hosting a Kinder Literacy and Information Evening from 6.00—7.00pm on Tuesday 19th February. This is an important session in which we share tips and strategies to help with your child's reading homework, what literacy looks like in our Kinder classrooms and general, practical information about being a Kinder parent at our school.

Please join us.

Opening School Mass

Please join us as we celebrate the start of the school year with our Opening School Mass at 9.15am, Friday 15th February.

Staff Development Days

The two remaining Staff Development Days are Monday and Tuesday, 4th and 5th March (Week 6). We genuinely appreciate the effort you devote to reorganising care for your children for these two days. Our teachers will be undertaking the University of NSW GERRIC's Mini Certificate of Gifted Education (Mini-COGE).

Kind Regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams

Principal

From Our REC

Parish Details

Ph. 8379 1730
www.toukley.dbb.org.au

Mass Times

Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 7.30am
9.00am
6.00pm

Father Tiziano *Parish Priest*
Father Vince *Assistant Priest*
Deacon Paul

Piano Tuition

There are currently vacancies for piano tuition during school hours. Please contact Chris Hochkins for further details.
Ph. 0414 186 044



Opening School Mass

Our K-6 Opening School Mass is on **Friday 15th February**. We welcome parents, grandparents and new families to celebrate our Opening Mass for 2019 with us in the church. Mass begins at 9.15am.

Ash Wednesday

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on March 6th. The whole school (K-6) will come together for Mass at 9.15am. Parents, we invite you to join us.

Sacramental Program

The enrolment sessions for the Sacrament of Reconciliation are coming up in week 4. Please attend one of the following, if you intend on your child making this sacrament. This is for children in Year 3 or children in Year 4, 5 or 6 who have not already made this sacrament:

St Brendan's Mass Centre Lake Munmorah: Wednesday 20th February 2019, 3.30pm

St Mary's Parish Centre Toukley: Thursday 21st February 2019, 3.30pm

St Mary's Parish Centre Toukley: Thursday 21st February 2019, 7.00pm

More information will be provided at the enrolment sessions.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week is Week 6 (March 4th - March 8th) of this term. Upcoming newsletters will include more details about this.

Liz Hartge
Religious Education Coordinator



From Our Librarian

Term Calendar

The term 1 calendar was sent home yesterday with your child and there is also a copy on the school's website.

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT BOOK

In the library this week we are learning how to choose books that have the right amount of challenge for our reading. Sometimes we like the look of a book when we see it's cover but when we open it up to read we find it is not ready for us yet. So we are learning how to apply the Five Finger Test. Here is a diagram that you can also follow at home.

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body

Sir Richard Steele

Happy reading everyone
Miss Gray

Five Finger Test

1. Open the book in the middle.
2. Whisper read the page to yourself.
3. Put up one finger for each word you don't know.



0-1 fingers:
Too Easy



2 Fingers:
A Bit Easy
But O.K.



3 Fingers:
JUST
RIGHT!

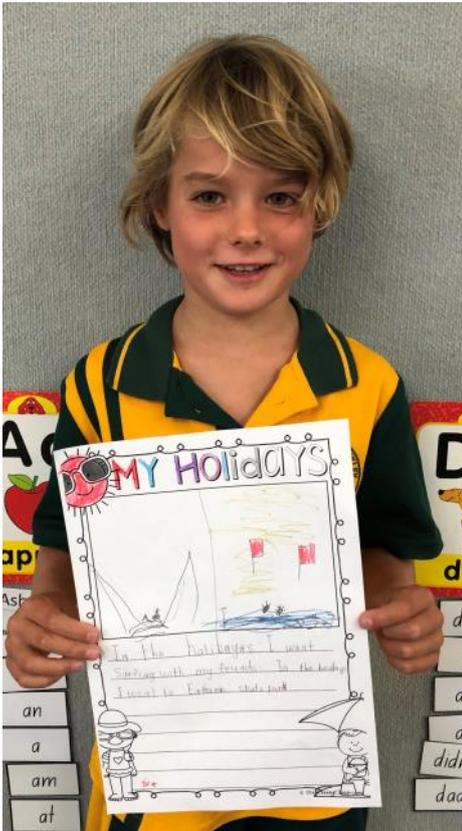


4 Fingers:
A Bit
Too Hard

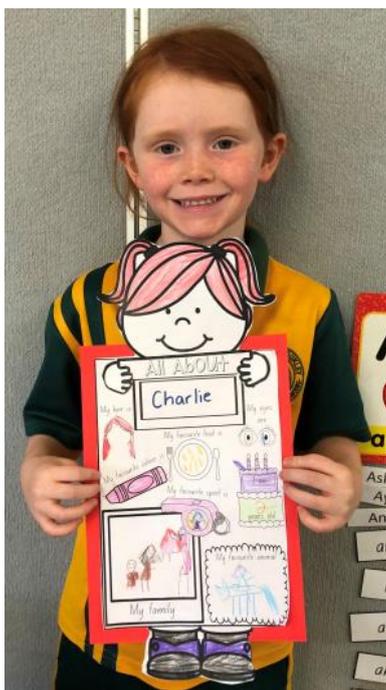


5 Fingers:
Too Hard
For Now

Sonny (1 Gold): In the holidays I went surfing with my friends. In the holidays I went to the skate park.



Charlie (1 Gold):
 All About Me
 My favourite food: nuggets
 My favourite colour: pink
 My hair colour: red
 My Family: Mummy, Daddy, Me, Cooper
 My favourite animal: horse



Rosie and Archie - 1Green



Edward and Mia
 1 Green



Rhani and Henry
 In Maths, 1 Blue have
 been making groups of 10
 to help us count.

From Our PE Teacher

Canteen News

Canteen is **CLOSED** on Tuesdays.
No lunch orders.

The current pricelist and Term 1 canteen roster are both available on the St Mary's website and can be accessed at any time [here](#).

Please check the current pricelist for updated prices.
Thank you
Donna Falzon

Kids Club OOSH Care Before School Care:

6.30am—9.00am

After School Care:

3.00pm—6.00pm

Vacation Care:

7.00am—6.00pm

Permanent and casual places available.

CCR Approved

Enquiries call Tania Wilson
0417 416 678

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!

St Mary's Swimming Carnival

Our Swimming Carnival is on Monday 18th February at Mingara for all children in Year 2 - 6.

Swimming permission and nomination notes have gone home with children and need to be returned by **tomorrow**.

We have 99% of notes back – Thank you so much it makes it so much easier when putting all children in events.

Please enter children in 10m **or** 20m **or** 50m races

I will put program together this weekend and have final information in next week's newsletter

As always we have the best crew of helpers and we look forward to your help again this year.

Once again we especially need parents who don't mind getting wet for the games – our children will have a fabulous day with all of the races, games and activities planned.

Active After School AFL

In Term 1 we will have AFL officers coming to school from 27th February, Wednesdays for 5 weeks.

They will be running a fun program of games to develop throwing, catching and kicking skills for both boys and girls.

This is a great way for children to have fun together after school. Especially our infants!
More news on registration next week.

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator



Looking for inspiration to prepare healthy and appealing lunches every day? The following websites have some great ideas for parents/ carers.

Maybe even the older kids can get involved and make some themselves.

<https://healthylunchbox.com.au/recipes/>

<https://www.taste.com.au/>

and enter lunchbox in the search button

<https://daa.asn.au/smart-eating-for-you/smart-eating-fast-facts/children/what-can-i-put-in-my-childs-lunchbox/>

<https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/parents-carers/healthy-eating-and-drinking/lunch-box-ideas.aspx>

When preparing your child's lunch box please keep in mind that we have a number of children at school with severe allergies to nuts and eggs.