

Farewell Miss Baker

Upcoming Events

- *Welcome Evening-
Meet the Teacher*
5.30pm
Wednesday
13 February
- *Opening School
Mass*
9.15am
Friday
15 February
- *Swimming Carnival*
Monday
18 February
- *Kinder Literacy and
Information 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
- *Year 5 in Bathurst*
Thursday + Friday
14 + 15 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,

Every now and then you come across a teacher who makes an indelible mark on a school. A teacher who has touched the lives of many students and families in such an incredibly positive way that it is impossible to measure. That is what Miss Julie Baker has been to our school.

Miss Baker commenced teaching at St Mary's in 2004. A critical member of our school's Leadership Team, over the years many children in the older grades have had the privilege of being in Miss Baker's class. Besides substantial learning, these children grew immensely as good people. Resilient, kind, empathetic and generous people who learned to think of the other (not themselves). Miss Baker has been a gifted teacher.

Miss Baker's deep understanding of people has endeared her to colleagues. Her sincere propensity to genuinely listen to others, her empathetic manner, coupled with her deep wisdom combined to ensure Julie's impact on our school has been immense.

On behalf of our school community, I wish you good health and exciting times as you move interstate.

Professional Learning

Our work as a Professional Learning Community (PLC) continues to evolve. We endlessly continue to learn and strive for better ways to serve the needs of the students at our school. We all like doing it. It is fun and exciting and challenging and rewarding.

To support such learning, periodically we have teachers participate in highly relevant workshops and conferences. On Friday 15th February, Mrs Hodgson (K Gold), Miss Burns (1 Blue) and Mrs Roach (3 Green) will be in Melbourne for the PLC Workshop. On Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd February, Mrs Sellars (AP), Mrs Hughes (Learning Coordinator and 1 Green) and Mrs Burns (Learning Coordinator and 2 Green) will be in Canberra for the PLC Response to Intervention Conference.

Mobile Phones, Watches, Devices

Mobile phones are not permitted to be brought to school unless you have written to me and a special exemption is granted (usually only four to five Year 5 or 6 students per year). Other devices including watches in which you can receive calls, text messages etc. are not permitted at all.

Meet the Teacher Evening

Tonight 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. Come for as long or short as you like.

Please Join Us

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

Kind Regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams
Principal



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

Merit Awards

Stephanie M
Jaxon C
Rhys M
Teyah H
Van B
Noah B
Ellie C
Connor D
Clive Z
Ellie M
Addison P
Oliver K
Beau T
Kirrilee F
Liliana C
Tayla G
Timothy S
Marcus S
Vanessa M
Ellie B
Charlie S
Dylan B
Chelsea B
Kitty G
Jonah M
Oscar P
Matilda S
Lachlan M
Jackson J
Samuel B
Reif D
Mason J
Lily T
Emily C
Zac H
Brock S
Candice B
Harper R
Lilly M
Mia W

Piano Tuition

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

From Our REC

Opening School Mass

Our K-6 Opening School Mass is on this **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 Family Liaison Officer

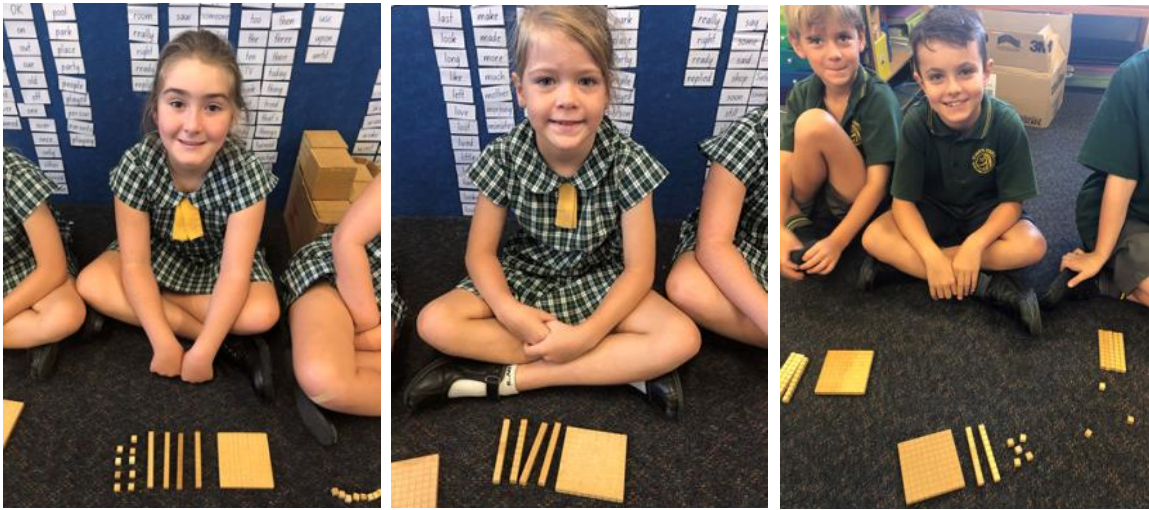
Research over many years has shown that a parent/ carers engagement in their child's school and education has a significant, positive impact on children's learning and wellbeing. You can be engaged in your child's learning by keeping up to date with what is happening at school, reading notes and newsletters, talking to your child about their day at school and spending time with your child reading together every day. Coming along and participating in the many and varied activities and events we have at school is also a positive way to engage. Hope to see you at our Welcome Evening this afternoon.

KidsMatter—A sense of belonging is very important for children's mental health and well-being. Children who feel they belong at school are more relaxed, happy, confident and generally have fewer behavioural problems.

When children know that their parents are interested in and supportive of the school and happy for them to be there, children feel safe and confident in their school environment. Having this feeling of security and confidence then helps children to develop the skills needed to build friendships. Please use the link [The Need to Belong](#) to find out what parents can do to help children develop their skills.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer

A Spotlight on Year 2



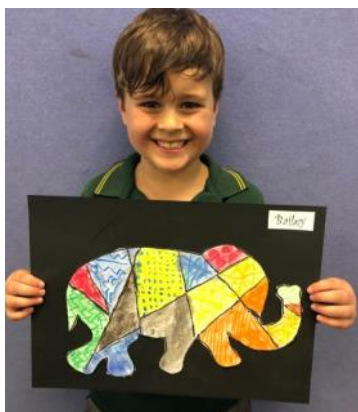
2 Blue - Elise, Tayla, Marcus and Lincoln modelling three-digit



2 Green are working hard during the English block.
Lila and Havana



Brody, Lily, Phoenix, Lila, Louis and Milla



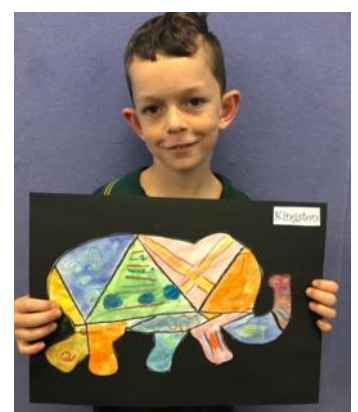
Bailey



Oscar



Sienna



Kingston

2 Gold have been experimenting with how colour, line, shape and pattern can be used to create interesting artworks. They had lots of fun creating these awesome elephants.

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

Canteen
CLOSED
Monday
Feb 18th
due to
swimming
carnival

Star Awards

Lachlan M
Tyde A
Sasha R
Sonny I
Indigo L
Rhani L
Luke W
Ruby K
Bella H
Lara N
Summer M
Luca K
Charlotte G
Ava M
Samuel W
Mia M
Marni R
Lara H
Cooper O
Jazmine G

School Banking

School Banking day is on a Monday.
Next week, however, due to the swimming carnival, banking day will be on Tuesday 19th February.

From Our PE Teacher

The Swimming Carnival presentation will be on Friday 22nd February at 2.30pm in the Undercroft area. Please join us.

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator



Something We've Noticed

Congratulations to our Sports Vice Captains who were elected by fellow students last Friday:

Red: Jayden S + Lacey B
Blue: Griffin M + Lucy N
Green: Herbie G + Marni R
Gold: Bede B + Kiarra L

An invitation for our families with toddlers and pre-schoolers



in the library

Storytime runs for 30 minutes every Thursday morning, immediately following morning assembly and is an opportunity for toddlers and pre-schoolers to borrow from our school library.

It is a great way for children to familiarise themselves with the library, experience stories being read to them, share books with their parent/ carer and participate in craft activities with other children.

Developing good reading habits and a love of reading as early as possible is a sound base for learning success at school.

