

# LENT

### Upcoming Events

- *Catholic Schools Week Open Classrooms*  
2.30pm  
Thursday  
7 March
- *School Cross Country Jenny Dixon Reserve*  
Friday  
8 March
- *Year 5 in Bathurst*  
Thursday + Friday  
14 + 15 March
- *St Mary's Playgroup*  
9.15am  
Tuesday  
19 March
- *Kinder 2020 Information Evening*  
7.00pm  
Monday  
25 March
- *Central Coast Cross Country*  
Friday  
29 March
- *Rugby League Opens*  
Morrie Breen Oval  
Wednesday  
3 April
- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
3.30pm  
Tuesday + Thursday  
9 + 11 April

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,

Beginning on Ash Wednesday (today), Lent is a season of reflection and preparation for the celebrations of Easter. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week.

The 40 days of Lent replicate the 40 days of sacrifice that Jesus spent in the desert. During Lent, we are asked to make sacrifices. Common examples include fasting (e.g. children may give up soft drink), prayer (e.g. praying for a particular cause or person in need) and kind deeds (e.g. children performing kind deeds to help others — in their home or for others).

On Ash Wednesday we receive ashes marked on our foreheads. The ashes are normally made from blessed palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. During Lent, Catholics (14 years and above) are required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please pray for the children who are currently preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reconciliation will be celebrated at 3.30pm on Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th April in our church.

### Playgroup

Playgroup is an invitation to all children, aged 4 to 5 years in our local area who will be enrolling for Kinder 2020 at our school and their parents and carers. The first session is at 9.15am on Tuesday 19th March in the Parish Hall.

### Our Cross Country

Please join us on Friday at Jenny Dixon Reserve for our school's Cross Country. It is a fun morning where every child participates and becomes involved. For parents new to our school, an important part of our culture is that the children are encouraged to 'have-a-go' at many, many things (not just the things that they are good at).

Thank you to the many parents who are assisting their child's class walk to and from Jenny Dixon Reserve safely. You are asked to meet us at the main gates of the school at

8.50am.

### 2020 Information Evening

Our Information Evening for parents wishing to enrol their child for Kinder 2020 will be held from 7.00pm on Monday 25th March in our school's Library.

### Thank You Parents

On Monday and Tuesday our teachers devoted themselves to learning further practical strategies for differentiating the curriculum. In simple terms, teachers added to their toolbag of tricks in designing learning for your child at their particular point-of-need. Although named the Mini Certificate of Gifted Education, our learning gave us ideas in catering for all the various academic levels within each class.

We sincerely appreciate the efforts you went to in reorganising care for your child(ren) during these two days.

### Open Classrooms

As part of Catholic Schools Week we invite you to our Open Classrooms from 2.30pm on Thursday afternoon. Come and enjoy and be proud of your child's wonderful efforts in class.

Kind regards,

*K Williams*

Kevin Williams  
Principal



## Parish Details

Ph. 8379 1730

[www.toukley.dbb.org.au](http://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

Phoebe N

Jack H

Sienna H

Charlotte C

Phoenix W

Tahlia T

Emmanuelle D

Addison W

Thomas M

Iylah M

Zoe W

Lucas C

Ruby K

Euan B

Coco T

Bethany M

Xavier S

Havi M

Nova B

Rose D

Lexie L

Cleo C

Marcella R

Chelsea F

Cahill L

Owen W

Myah L

Zach M

Jessica R

Marni R

Olivia C

Ava C

Malachi P

## From Our REC

### Project Compassion

With the Season of Lent here, we have launched our Project Compassion Campaign for this year. We are asking you to talk to your child/ren about how they can help those in need particularly during the Lenten Season.

### Sacramental Program

Please remember that the Sacramental classes for reconciliation are currently running. Please keep these children in your prayers. The Sacrament will be celebrated on the following dates:

**St Mary's Toukley: Tuesday 9th April, 3.30pm or Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 3.30pm**  
**St Brendan's Lake Munmorah: Wednesday 10th April, 3.30pm**

Please contact the parish office for more details: 4396 4455.

### Stations of the Cross

Each Good Friday our students support the parish though re-enacting the Stations of the Cross. This is held in the church from 9-10am. There will be a few speaking

roles and lots of non-speaking roles for all volunteers K-6. Parents, if any of you can help with organisation and supervision, this would also be appreciated. A note will go home this week and more are available at the school office.

### The Light is on for you

Churches of the Diocese of Broken Bay will be open on Fridays in Lent, 7pm-8pm, for quiet time and prayer, with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available. For more information and participating churches, please visit [www.thelightisonforyou.org.au](http://www.thelightisonforyou.org.au)

Liz Hartge

Religious Education Coordinator



## From Our Librarian

### FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Our children today are expected to successfully navigate an ever increasing range of reading material. In their quest for information children read books, pamphlets, magazines, signs, recipes, maps, game rules, e-books and the infinite number of web pages that can be accessed online. The list of skills our children now need when learning to read seems endless: holding a book, turning the pages, the direction we read, swiping the screen, re-orienting the screen, enlarging or reducing a web page, even evaluating the reliability of a website before using its information.

As teachers we recognize the importance of **Gross Motor Skills and Fine Motor Skills**. Gross Motor Skills are movements related to large muscles such as legs and arms and Fine Motor Skills are movements involving smaller muscle groups such as those in the hand and wrist. With technology at our fingertips fine motor dexterity and gross motor coordination is vitally important in children's physical development and learning.

How can parents help their child's skill development? How often is your child engaged in 'hands on' activities such as cutting straight lines, curvy lines, circles? How often is your child involved in gluing, folding paper, rolling play dough, colouring in and staying within the lines, tracing, threading string, tying knots, weaving, scrunching paper, twisting lids on containers, constructing with lego, playing board games, solving jigsaw puzzles, packing up and putting toys away? How often is your child outside skipping, hopping, bouncing a ball with one and two hands, throwing a ball against a wall and catching it, digging in the sand, kicking a ball, or skipping with a rope? These are just some of the tasks that strengthen muscles and coordination. Sometimes it is easier and simpler for children to be engaged with a screen device but do not underestimate the value of those manual tasks that get rather messy. They are just as important now as when you were a child, as well as children being responsible for cleaning up and packing everything away!

Happy reading everyone

Play means...

exploring, talking, thinking,  
trying, imagining, daydreaming,  
inventing, risk taking, giving,  
sharing, making choices,  
working, relaxing, challenging,  
turn taking, pausing, running,  
skipping, jumping, shouting,  
whispering, singing, making  
friends, being yourself, being  
someone else, role playing,  
acting, caring, negotiating,  
reading, writing, counting,  
measuring, trying things out,  
feeling, leading, following,  
problem solving, storytelling,  
building, laughing, smiling...

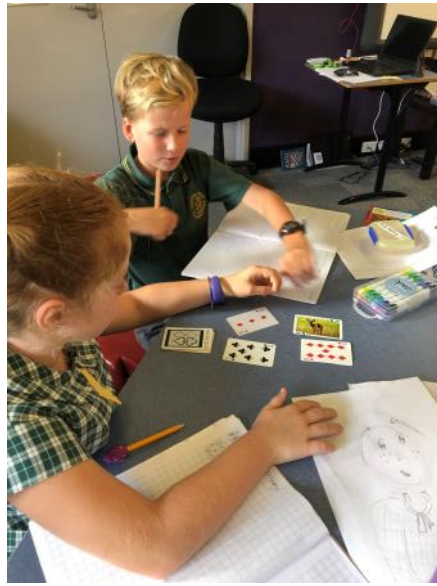
learning.





## A Spotlight on Year 4

Year 4Blue are exploring a variety of strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems.



4 Green completing artworks before Catholic Schools Week.



4 Gold have been completing artwork based around colour and line.



### Canteen News

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

**Please check the current  
pricelist for updated prices.**

Thank you  
Donna Falzon

### Star Awards

Charlie M  
Laykn V  
Matthew G  
Archer G  
Lillian D  
Ava S  
Eden L  
Isla C  
Addison L  
Tiernan B  
Riley T  
Evie M  
Dimity M  
Harry H  
Edin D  
Maddi C

### Absentees

Please remember to call or  
email the school office  
before 9.30am if your  
child/ren will be absent from  
school.

**Ph.** 4396 5100

**Email.**

smt@dbb.catholic.edu.au

## From Our PE Teacher

### St Mary's Cross Country – Friday Jenny Dixon

We are looking forward to another fun sporting day on Friday with all students having a go and doing their best.

Children will walk to the park, leaving after assembly. All parents walking need to meet at main gates at 8.50am.

We will start the cross country as soon as everyone arrives at Jenny Dixon. We will move through the ages in the following order - 8yrs, 7yrs, 6yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs.

If time permits we will have the presentation at the conclusion of the 12yrs race.

In the interest of all children's safety could parents please not take children away from their class group.

If parents would like to speak to their children please move to their class group and chat with them while they are with their teachers.

### Broken Bay Swimming

Best wishes on Thursday night at Mingara to Harper R, Caleb H, Josh H and Tasman S.

### Junior Rugby Union

Play rugby U6 – U17's with your local club Warnervale Wildcats or Northlakes Pirates and receive free entry to all Waratahs home games. Visit ccjru.com.au

Liz Bain

Sports Coordinator



Sydney Roosters visit



WARNERVALE

## MACKILLOP Catholic College

### Open Day and Enrolment Nights

All are warmly invited to attend our Open Day on Wednesday 13 March between 4-6pm where our College campus will open its gates to families. Whether you are considering enrolment, new to our school, or a long-term member of our community, we invite everyone to tour the grounds of our campus and check out the amazing resources, facilities and opportunities we provide to our students Kinder to Year 12.

Following this event, there will be two separate enrolment information sessions for Kinder and Year 7 2020 families that will commence from 6pm.

Come, engage, belong! See what our wonderful MacKillop community can offer your child.

458 Main Road, Noraville NSW 2263

**Telephone:** (02) 4396 5100  
**Fax:** (02) 4396 5101

**Email:** smt@dbb.catholic.edu.au  
**Website:** www.smtdbb.catholic.edu.au