

Not an Educational Lottery

Upcoming Events

- *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
- *Holy Week Liturgy*
1.50pm
Thursday
11 April
- *ANZAC Day Liturgy*
10.15am
Friday
12 April
- *Last Day of Term 1*
Friday
12 April
- *First Day of Term 2*
Monday
29 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,

One of the main roles I have as Principal is to create the conditions at our school in which teachers are able to continually improve. We achieve this through having excellent professional learning and a collaborative culture in which the wisdom of the group is valued.

Why do we, as teachers at St Mary's, want to continually improve? In order to best help the students at our school both *learn* and *grow socially* and *emotionally*.

Imagine if you went to the doctor and he/she decided on a course of action for you that was relevant 5, 10 or 15 years ago. Sounds a bit dicey to me. It is the same in education. We don't want a teacher doing the same thing, day-in, day-out, that they did 5, 10 or 15 years ago. Our profession has evolved. Outstanding educational research is now at our fingertips. It is remiss of us not to use it.

In continually helping our wonderful teachers to improve, we are reducing the chance of our school being an educational lottery. In an educational lottery school, parents (annually) dearly hope that their child will get 'so and so' as a teacher and not *teacher a, b or c*. Naturally, all teachers have their own characteristics and traits. But as we collectively improve together, our teachers' skills strengthen, knowledge and strategies are widely shared and the ultimate beneficiary of our efforts are the children. We work hard to improve our practice and when we see the fruits of our efforts, it is a lot of fun.

No, our school is not an educational lottery. We have an outstanding teaching staff who truly enjoy helping your child be the best version of themselves.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

After Baptism, in our parish the sacraments the children receive, in order, are: Confirmation, Reconciliation and Eucharist. We currently have many children preparing

to receive Reconciliation. Please keep them in your prayers.

Kinder 2020

If you have a child who you intend to start school in 2020, our enrolment period is now open. Please speak to the staff in our administration to organise an enrolment package.

CCC Cross Country

Best wishes to all of the children who are representing our school at this Friday's CCC Cross Country at Mt Penang Parklands.

Holy Week Liturgy

Please join us as we celebrate the important events of Holy Week. Our liturgy will commence at 1.50pm on Thursday 11th April and will be led by Year 5.

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

Merit Awards

Mia M
Gwyneth M
Lachlan B
Nate F
Koa F
Jase B
Ayla B
Frankie G
Archer G
Ty T
Archie M
Liam G
Beau B
Sarah L
Sosefo K
Ivy D
Zara B
Tia S
Summer M
Hua Qiang P
Tiernan B
Charlotte G
Kyah R
Harry M
Josephine R
Blake B
Savannah T
Yumi S
Makenzie W
Shelby M
Griffin M
Tara T
Mia P
Mia J
Marshall S
Tiarna G
Cooper M
Brendan T
Sienna C
Thomas S
Marlee S

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 11th April, 3.30pm
St Brendan's Lake Munmorah: Wednesday 10th April, 3.30pm

Stations of the Cross

Each Good Friday our students support the parish through 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 you can

help with organisation and supervision, this would also be appreciated.

Easter Egg Raffle

Our annual Easter Raffle has commenced. Tickets will be on sale on the top playground before school from 8.30am. Tickets are 50 cents each or 3 for \$1. Donations of Easter eggs, baskets and gift bags can also be made at the raffle ticket table each morning. Thankyou in advance to our families that are supporting this initiative.

Holy Week

Please join us for our Holy Week Liturgy, which will be run by Year 5 on Thursday 11th April at 1.50pm.

Liz Hartge
Religious Education Coordinator

From Our Family Liaison Officer

Has everyone claimed their Active Kids or Creative Kids Voucher from Service NSW yet? These \$100 vouchers are available to help offset the cost of sporting and creative activities of students aged 5 to 18 years. It can really help with the cost of things like sport registration, dancing, drama, etc. You can find out more at the [Service NSW website](#).

A great local organisation which provides assistance to local families is Toukley Neighbourhood Centre (TNC). With many services such as Lakes Food Care at 199 Main Rd Toukley, support and referral, No Interest Loans Scheme and a Community Café on Friday's during the school term where for a \$2 donation you can enjoy morning tea and a hot lunch. It is a great resource for our community. For more information about the services available at TNC please use this [link](#).

SEL

Social and Emotional Learning, or SEL, is a crucial part of children's development and supports children's academic learning at school. Children who are resilient, can manage their own emotions, get on well with others and are generally happy and positive are in much better frames of minds to focus on their learning.

The five SEL skill areas that children need to develop are

1. Self awareness
2. Self management
3. Social awareness

4. Responsible decision making
5. Relationships skills

As parents/ carers we have all seen first hand that when children's emotions get out of control and when things like tantrums, over reactions to minor incidents or outburst of anger are happening, children have stopped thinking and are just reacting. They need guidance and practice to learn positive coping skills and encouragement to use what they learn in testing situations.

SEL skills and learning are a cycle. When children develop positive SEL skills they are ready to learn and when children are learning and feel good about themselves their social and emotional skills improve.

Following are links to some great information for parents/ carers about children's [Social](#) and [Emotional](#) development.

Another great source of information about children's social and emotional development and behaviour is the 123 Magic and Emotion Coaching parent programme that we will be running at St Mary's in Term 2. This programme provides participants with a great understanding of why children behave the way they do and how you can support them to develop greater skills in managing and dealing with their emotions. More information will be sent home early Term 2 and all parents/ carers are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer



When you enter the doors it's like a fairy tale!



It's fun!!



We get to borrow books.



We learn something new each week

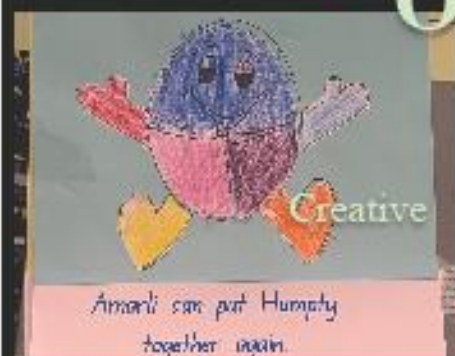


There is a variety of books to choose from!



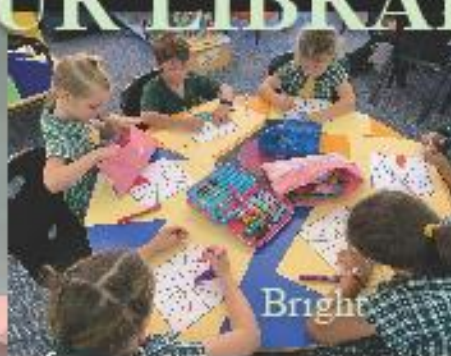
It's calm and energetic!!!

OUR LIBRARY



Creative

Amari can put Humpty together again.



Bright



We can't wait to see which book Miss Gray will read!



Inspirational



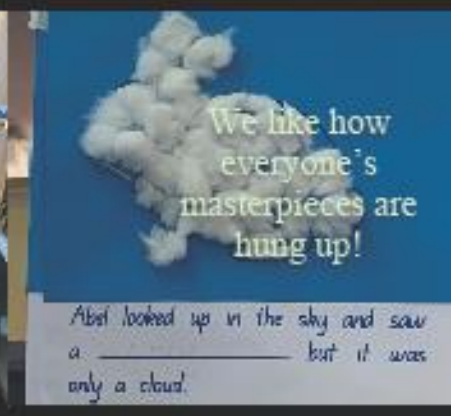
The library is the perfect place to relax and unwind!



It's easy to find books because it is organised.



There is always a chance to express your imagination



We like how everyone's masterpieces are hung up!

Abel looked up in the sky and saw a _____ but it was only a cloud.



Colourful

Easter Raffle

Our annual Easter Raffle has begun. Tickets will be on sale on the top playground before school from 8.30am. Tickets are 50cents each or 3 for \$1. Donations of Easter eggs, baskets and gift bags can also be made at the raffle ticket table each morning. Thank you in advance to our families that are supporting this initiative.



Star Awards

Harvey L
Maci T
Hayden T
Taj R
Max B
Phoenix W
Tessa G
Alfie O
Ezri D
Ben S
Lachlan M
Vanessa M
Evie S
Nova B
Chelsea B
Harry B
Milan B
Charlotte W
Lacey B
Griffin M
Joshua F
Charli M
Eve M
Olivia W

Something We've Noticed

The change over for Winter Uniform is on Monday 20th May 2019 - Week 4, Term 2.

Uniform Shop News

The change over to Winter uniform will be Term 2 Week 4 Monday 20th May.

Lay-by for winter uniform is available now. Pre-loved winter uniforms will be available from Week 1 Term 2.

Uniform shop hours are Monday to Friday 8.15am until 9.45am. If the shop is unattended during these times please pop up to the office and I can help you or alternatively you can contact me on my mobile 0432 584 683 during shop hours.

Thank you
Leesa Sternbeck

Sick of the usual responses to "How was your day?", "What did you learn today?" and "Who did you play with?" being "OK", "Nothing" and "No-one"?

Below are some alternative questions to ask your child and (hopefully) get more of a response. Pick just one or two a day to ask, all questions at once could be a bit overwhelming for them.

- What were the 3 best things about today?
- What is one new thing you learned today?
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Tell me something that made you laugh today
- Who made you laugh today?
- Where is the best spot to play at school?
- Did you do something today that made you feel proud?
- Did you do something kind for someone today?
- Did someone do something kind for you today?
- What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
- What was your favourite subject you learned about today?
- What book did the teacher read to you today?
- What game did you play at sport today?"



These questions actually get your child to think about specifics of the day. Please keep in mind that just as we need some time to unwind after a busy work day, the kids may need some time to relax before they are ready to talk with you about their day. While we are naturally very curious and excited to find out what their day at school has been like, they can feel a bit overwhelmed if we bombard them with questions straight after school.