



Something We've Noticed



Upcoming Events

- **Confirmation Meeting**
3.30pm + 7.00pm
Thursday
1 August
- **NSW Netball School Cup**
Tuesday
6 August
- **Environment Leaders' Day**
Taronga Zoo
Tuesday
6 August
- **CCC Athletics**
Friday
9 August
- **St Mary's Playgroup**
9.15am
Tuesday
13 August
- **Assumption Mass**
9.15am
Friday
16 August
- **Choir singing for Catholic Women's League**
Thursday
22 August
- **Book Parade**
9.30am
Monday
26 August

All relevant school notes and letters are posted on our website. Please click on News and Events and then Letters, Notes, Timetables.

St Mary's Catholic School Community,

Our Wellbeing Parent Team plays an important role in our school. Repeatedly the team are asked to help volunteer their time, bake delicious treats, help set up for various morning teas, prepare sandwiches, cook BBQs, serve children, clean up and pack up and the list goes on.

This team of people generously and selflessly give their time to support our school. Thank you. Your efforts are part of those "one percenters" that all combine to add richly to our school's culture.

Sacrament of Confirmation

The information session for parents of children wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation is on Thursday 1st August. You have a choice of the 3.30pm or 7.00pm session. The meeting will be in the Church and/or Parish Centre.

Something We've Noticed 2

An outstanding aspect of our current teaching staff is their drive to continually improve, both individually and collectively. The outcome of such continuous improvement is increased skills to meet their students' various learning needs.

Presently, teachers are engaged in professional learning focused on Spelling, Maths and Religious Education. Shortly, we commence learning more about specific learning disorders, e.g. dyslexia.

The drive to improve never ends. Our school continues to evolve. Practices from the past that are proven and effective will be valued, reviewed, polished and kept. Practices from the past that do not meet the needs of the students' have been let go and replaced by current ones which educational research show work.

Something We've Noticed 3

Already this year, Kinder, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4 have been on excursions. Both Years 5 and Year 6 have been to Bathurst and Canberra respectively. A common theme from all these trips has been the overwhelmingly positive feedback from organisations, bus companies, accommodation, teachers and

volunteer parents about the children's excellent behaviour, attitude and manners. Congratulations girls and boys. We're proud to take you out on excursions because we are confident that your behaviour will reflect what we see at school every day positive, respectful students who enjoy learning.

Environmental Leaders' Day

On Tuesday 6th August Mrs Shearwood is taking four Year 4 children to the Environmental Leaders' Day at Taronga Zoo. The goal of the day is to empower, educate and support students in their earth stewardship responsibility.

Seasons for Growth

Our Seasons for Growth commences this week. It is a program that strengthens the social and emotional wellbeing of children who have experienced loss or grief. Children are placed in a small group setting (4-6 children) for an 8 week program led by a trained and trusted facilitator.

Compass Update

On the 1st of July, 'Compass' went live as our school's parent portal. Since then, we have encouraged parents to enter explanations for absences via the *Compass School Manager App*. This replaces a phone call or letter to school if your child is absent. If you are unsure how to do this, please contact the school and we can assist. Tomorrow, an additional feature will be activated. If your child is absent and the reason is unexplained, you will receive an automated SMS at 10am. This text will give you an option to click on a link to add the explanation, in lieu of calling the school. A short instruction manual will be emailed to you this week. As always, if you have any further questions, please call the school office. An additional 'How to' Guide is accompanying this newsletter.

K-2 Swimming

In preparation for our K-2 Swimming Program later in the term, we ask that all families fill in and return the YMCA swimming skill form, sent home today. This will allow instructors to suitably place your child in a swimming group.

Kind Regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams
Principal

Parish Details

Ph. 8379 1730
Email. toukleyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mass Times

Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 7.30am
9.00am
6.00pm

Father Tomy Parish Priest
Father Baby Parish Priest
Deacon Paul



Year 6 Parents

Year 6 Graduation Meeting for parents in the library on Thursday 8th August at 3.15pm. All welcome.

Years 2-6 Parents ICAS Assessments

This year, for the first time, parents will enroll for the tests and pay online directly to UNSW Global. Please refer to the note that has been sent home with the students. Online payment will close on 14th August 2019.

Entertainment Books

You can download the Entertainment Book App for free.... Preview what's on offer. Memberships are \$65. Just visit the St Mary's order page
www.entbook.com.au/3420r6

There is also a limited supply of hard copy books available at the office.

From Our REC

Sacrament of Confirmation

For those children preparing to make the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 21st September, please attend **one** of the [compulsory information afternoons/nights](#):

Today, Wednesday 31st July 3.30pm at St Brendan's Lake Munmorah (in the church)

OR

Tomorrow, Thursday 1st August at 3.30pm at St Mary's Toukley (in the Parish Centre)

OR

Tomorrow, Thursday 1st August at 7.00pm at St Mary's Toukley (in the Parish Centre).

If you have any questions or you would like to discuss your own personal circumstances regarding the Sacraments, please call the parish office on 8379-1730.



From Our Librarian

Term 3 is always an exciting term in the library. Each week we will be examining picture books that have been shortlisted in the annual Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) Book Week Competition. Children in K-2 have read Rainbow Bear by Stephen Michael King and this week will respond to the text Noni the Pony Rescues a Joey by Alison Lester.

Years 3-6 have read Cicada by Shaun Tan where not everything in the text is what it appears to be! This week we are reading Chalk Boy by Margaret Wild and Mandy Ord and will be experimenting with pavement art in response to the text.

Our 2019 Book Week celebrations will be held in Week 6. Our dress up Book Character Parade will be Monday 26th August so put this date on the fridge. Lots of children have been planning their Book Parade costume already. The teachers are hard at work on their costumes. In fact they started their planning in Term 2!!!! Have you started thinking about what your children will wear on the day?

Grandparents' Day Liturgy

What a wonderful turn out we had for our Grandparents Day last Friday! The liturgy was such a beautiful way to celebrate the gift of grandparents and I thank the many grandparents and other family members who were able to join us on this special day. After talking to many grandparents, I learnt that many had travelled long distances to celebrate this day with their grandchildren. It was so special to watch as children shared morning tea and conversations with their grandparents and showed them around their playground. In the open classrooms it was hard to tell who was more pleased and excited to be there; the children showing their work or the grandparents who could appreciate their hard work. A very big thank you to Year 6 and their teachers, who were responsible for running and organising our Grandparents' Day Liturgy. We are already looking forward to next year!

Liz Hartge
Religious Education
Coordinator



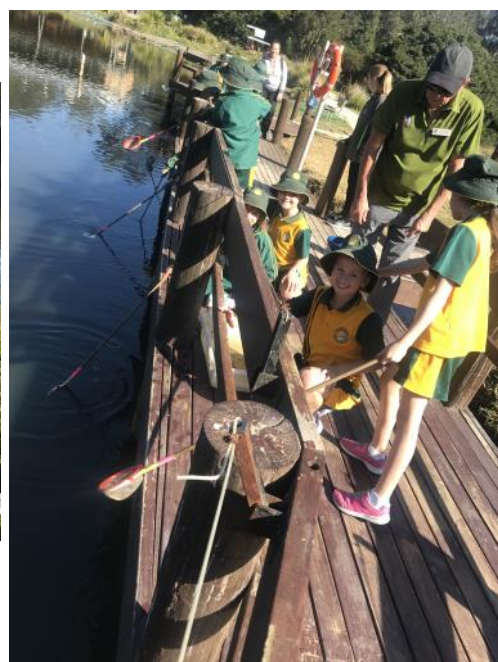
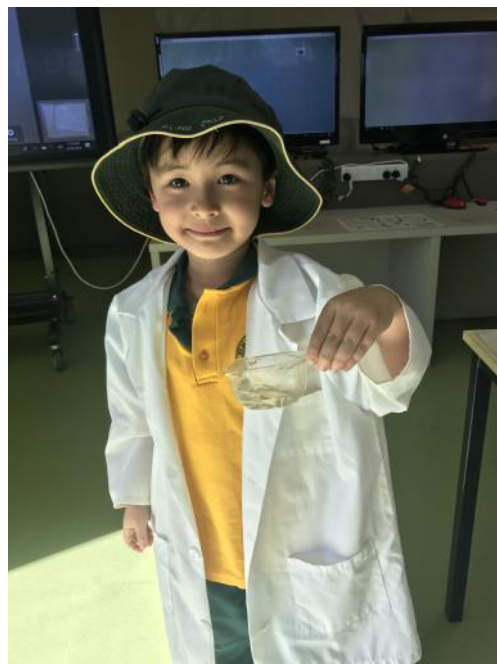
As part of this year's Book Week celebration we will be having a Book Fair in the Library. Children will have the opportunity to **buy** a book during Book Week. Last year's Book Fair was a huge success thanks to everyone's generous support. The result enabled us to buy sets of robots. Our children have enjoyed learning about computer coding skills and how to apply the coding sequences they develop to animate these robots. Our goal this year is to raise enough money to build our range of STEM resources.

Happy reading everyone
Miss Gray
Librarian



A Spotlight on Year 1

Our excursion to The Hunter Wetlands



From Our PE Teacher

Canteen News

Term 3 Winter Lunch Specials have begun. This Friday August 2 soup is Chicken & Sweet Corn.

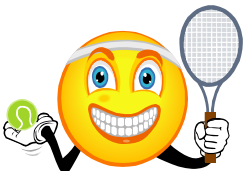


A friendly reminder that the school canteen is not open on Tuesdays.

**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!



NSW Catholic Primary School Golf Championships

These were held in freezing conditions at Blackheath in the Blue Mountains. Golfers from Catholic Schools in Northern NSW competed in this event with the top 3 qualifying for the State Championships.

We at St Mary's are proud to announce that Josh H won by 4 shots, he shot 80 off the stick. Kiarra CJ came 3rd and won girls net and Eddie A won the 9 hole title by 1 shot.

Amazing efforts by our Golfers and obviously a great junior program at Toukley Golf Club!



Inter-schools Skiing Northern NSW/ QLD Championships

Lilly McF came away with 8th place in the moguls, just missing out by 3 points to attend State. A great achievement at her first effort at this level in this event.

Zali McF came away 31st in the alpine event which had a total of 115 entries.

They both competed well, not in the greatest of weather conditions and even competing under lights at night. St Mary's are very proud of them both.



CCC Shotput and Discus practice – Friday morning 7.45am

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator

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