

A Great Start to 2020

Upcoming Events

- *Kinder Parent Evening*
6.00pm
Monday
10 February
- *"Meet the Teacher" Evening*
5.30pm
Wednesday
12 February
- *Opening School Mass*
9.15am
Friday
14 February
- *Swimming Carnival*
Monday
17 February
- *Enrolment for Sacrament of Reconciliation*
3.30pm or 7.00pm
Thursday
20 February
- *Ash Wednesday Mass*
9.15am
Wednesday
26 February
- *School Cross Country Jenny Dixon Reserve*
Friday
6 March

St Mary's Catholic School Community,

We have kind, respectful and polite kids at our school. As we've started school it has been wonderful to witness the fun of watching mates catch up in the playground, to hear so many children happily greet our teachers and to listen to the fun things the kids enjoyed during the break.

Great smiles and lots of laughter have filled the playground.

A warm welcome to our new Kinder families. Our Kinders have made a very settled start and look wonderful in their new uniforms.

Kinder Parent Evening

We are hosting a Kinder (our current Kinders) Parent Evening from 6.00 — 7.15pm on Monday 10th 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, speech therapy ideas and general, practical information about being a Kinder parent at our school.

Please join us.

New Students

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

Eden D (1 Blue), Harrison B (1 Gold), Jayden G (2 Green), Robby L (3 Gold), Jared B (3 Blue), Lachlan G (4 Green), Ellie L (6 Green), Lyla P (6 Blue).

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

Your Prayers and Thoughts

Please keep Mrs Duncan (6 Gold teacher) and her family in your thoughts and prayers. Mrs Duncan's mum passed away last night. May your treasured memories and Our Lord's strength be of great comfort during this difficult time.

"Meet the Teacher" Evening

On Wednesday 12th 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.

Opening School Mass

Please join us as we celebrate the start of the school year with our Opening School Mass at 9.15am, Friday 14th February.

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. Other devices including watches in which you can receive calls, text messages etc. are not permitted at all.

School Uniform

We appreciate parents efforts in ensuring their child has the appropriate school uniform. Starting back at school, the children have looked sensational. Thank you.

Going Home From School Routine

The parents and grandparents of a child are permitted to collect them at 3.15pm daily. If a different person is picking your child up, please notify us either in writing or via a phone call. Please refer to the letter forwarded last Friday (and on our website).

Kind regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams
Principal

From Our REC

Welcome to the 2020 School Year! I hope you had a relaxing and joyful Christmas and New Year Season. I am here to support families in their faith development, so if you have any questions regarding Masses, making Sacraments, connecting with the parish or anything else regarding the religious life of our school, please give me a call.

Opening School Mass

Our K-6 Opening School Mass is on Friday 14th February. We welcome parents, carers, grandparents and new families to celebrate our Opening Mass for 2020 with us in the church. Mass begins at 9.15am.

Sacramental Program

The Sacramental Program includes children in Year 2 (Confirmation), Year 3 (Reconciliation) and Year 4 (Holy Communion), as well as children in older grades who may have previously missed one of the Sacraments. An information note went home last week with the details.

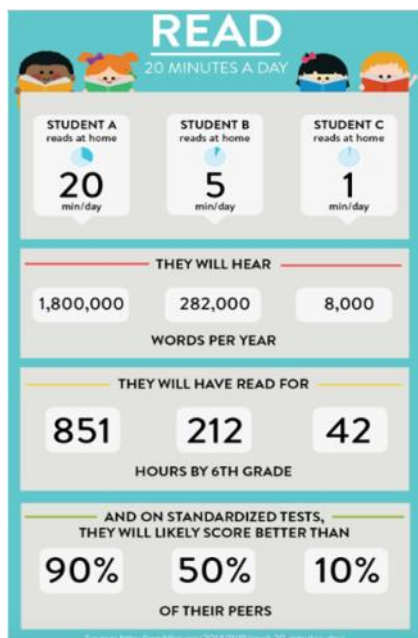
If you have any further questions, please contact the parish office on 8379 1730.

From Our Librarian

DO YOU HAVE A SPARE 20 MINUTES EACH DAY?

Twenty minutes is all it takes for parents to help their children become competent, independent readers. Understandably family life is busy but we can never underestimate the power of reading as an essential life skill.

Research has shown the following statistics.



Ash Wednesday

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 26th. We will come together for Mass to celebrate Ash Wednesday. The time will be confirmed at a later date. Parents and carers, we invite you to join us.

Liz Hartge
Religious Education Coordinator



Beginning readers who are learning to read may not be reading the same volume as independent readers. They read much more slowly than experienced readers. Guided readers that are sent home are certainly limited in their amount of text and vocabulary, but their purpose is to support and reinforce the learning-to-read process that is happening each day at school. It is also vital that blossoming readers also hear fluent reading from adults each day. Parents who read to their child every day reinforce fluency and expression, build vocabulary and model the importance and value of reading.

Readers at all stages of independence across the grades definitely need 20 minutes a day. Teachers will send home readers and your child will borrow library books each week to support our compulsory reading homework. School readers, library books and other books read **must** be recorded in your child's home reading log. 20 minutes of uninterrupted, distraction-free time for every family is all it takes. Every child's future is worth 20 minutes!

Today a READER, Tomorrow a LEADER!
Margaret Fuller

Happy reading everyone
Miss Gray
Librarian

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

Something We've Noticed

It's been a big week for our Kinders. New school, new uniform, new friends and a new teacher. I reckon they must be sleeping well at night.

And there's a chance that some of the kids are going to be six feet tall very shortly (if you go by the amount of food Mum or Dad has packed for them).

Asthma Plans

If your child experiences Asthma and their Action Plan has changed from the one you have provided to school last year, could you please send the updated plan to the office as soon as possible.



A Spotlight on the start to 2020



From Our PE Teacher

Canteen News

We are still in desperate need for volunteers to assist in the canteen. The children love to see mum, dad or a grandparent helping out. Just volunteering once a month can make such a difference. Please let the office know if you can help. Thanking you in advance.
Donna & Janet

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

STARS

Share Fun
Think Safe, Act Safe
Act Responsibly
Respect All That God has Made
Speak With Kindness

**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 17th 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 **this Friday**.

We have 99% of notes back – Thank you so much, it makes it so much easier when putting all children in events. We use a computer driven program called Meet Manager which requires entries inputted before the Carnival – I will be doing our entries this weekend. This gives parents time to go to the pool or ask swimming coaches about appropriate races.

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

They cannot do a combination of distances due to safety concerns – with water activities teachers must know exactly where children are at all times. They cannot be wandering between areas.

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.

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator



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