# St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Toukley

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# **Congratulations Children**

### **Upcoming Events**

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

- Reports posted on Compass Thursday 2 July
- Last Day of Term 2 Thursday 2 July
- Staff Development Day Friday 3 July
- First Day of Term 3 Monday 20 July
- School Photos Thursday 23 July
- Parent Teacher Meetings Week 2 Term 3

### **Please Note**

Our **Uniform Shop** is open for orders via email or phone and will be sent home with your child.

Our **Canteen** is open for lunches only (every day except Tuesday).

We have a pupil-free **Staff Development Day** on Friday 3rd July.

All relevant school notes and letters are posted on our website. Please click on News and Events and then Letters, Notes, Timetables. On Monday, approximately 40 of our children experienced the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Father Tomy and Father Baby led a reflective, contemplative session which helped prepare the girls and boys to participate fully in the sacrament. The main message centred on God always being willing and open to listening to the children.

Very reverently and very thoughtfully each child then made their First Reconciliation with one of our priests. Father Tomy had done a great job reducing the children's nervousness, giving them the confidence to share their reflections. Father Tomy and Father Baby, we appreciate and value your pastoral leadership in our parish community.

Thanks also to our REC, Mrs Hartge, whose initiative enabled the completion of the COVID-19 interrupted sacrament.

### **Reports**

On Thursday 2nd July your child's Report will be posted on Compass (no hard copy will be sent home).

Confirmation from the Catholic Schools Office enables us to have the traditional face -to-face Parent Teacher Meetings (with appropriate social distancing measures) to discuss each child's Report. These meetings will occur in Week 2 of next term (27-31 July).

Bookings (through Compass) for the Parent Teacher Meetings will open on Wednesday 24th June. You will receive a "push notification" alerting you.

# With a Little Bit of Luck

COVID-19 saw rapid changes occurring, sometimes daily, to the educational landscape. Slowly, certain restrictions are being lifted, e.g. we can now assemble as a whole school. With a little bit of luck, perhaps early next term we may be able to have parents routinely enter our school

grounds. As soon as I am notified of any such changes, I will let you know.

# **Enrolments for Kinder 2021 Open**

Applications for enrolment in Kinder 2021 at our school are now open. Please contact our school's administration to access a Kinder enrolment pack.

Kind regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams Principal







Term 2 Week 8 17 Jun 2020

# From Our REC

# First Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was celebrated here at St Mary's on Monday 15th June. Congratulations to the following children: Milla A, Jared B, Isla C, Elizabeth C, Elise C, Bailey C, Brooklyn C, Liliana C, Lucas C, Zoe D, Ivy D, Olivia D, Brax K, Ruby K, Isabella L, Eden L, Tayla M, Vanessa M, Lara N, Samuel N, Flynn O, Olivia R, Emilia R, Ava S, Lincoln S, Timothy S, Myles S, Zac W Zoe W, Max W, Caylon A, Levi J, Indy K, Raya Kand Xavier S.

# **Sacred Heart**

This Friday we would usually celebrate the Sacred Heart Feast Day by participating in Mass. Instead our school captains will lead us in a prayer celebration to remember this important day.

# Winter Appeal

Our 2020 COVID Winter Appeal has begun! Our Mini Vinnies students will be hard at work over the remainder of the term collecting items donated to the school.

This year we are asking families, before the end of Term 2, to please donate any of the following items:

Winter Woolies: jumpers, blankets Non-Perishable Food: tinned tuna, muesli bars, noodles, soup, juice poppers Toiletries: shampoo, conditioner, soap, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb/brush hand sanitizer.

If you or your children have outgrown anything that is still in good condition, please donate! Although we ask for donations of clothing items that have been pre-worn, please ensure that they do not have rips or stains, as they will be new clothes for people in our local community. Your donations are much appreciated, especially at these really difficult times.

Liz Hartge Religious Education Coordinator

# **From Our Family Liaison Officer**

### Season's for Growth

A note has gone home with today's newsletter about our Seasons for Growth (SFG) programme. Seasons for Growth is a peer support programme which aims to strengthen the social and emotional wellbeing of children in Years 1 to 6 who are dealing with significant life changes brought about by death, separation or divorce within their families. The programme will begin at the start of Term 3, so if you think your child would benefit from SFG and they are interested in participating, please complete the expression of interest on the form and return to school. If you would like more information about the Seasons programme you are welcome to speak with me either in person or by calling the school office.

### **Independence and Resilience**

Children developing competence in doing things for themselves leads to greater self confidence and helps them feel good about themselves. As adults we know that sense of pride and confidence we feel when we master a new skill or solve a challenging problem and it's the same for our kids. When children can come up with their own solutions to problems (with our support and guidance rather than fixing things for them) and learn to do things by and for themselves it helps them feel good and builds confidence, which means they are then far more willing to "have a go" and try new things—socially, physically and academically. But for children to develop these skills and become competent they need the adults in their lives to provide them opportunities to take on age appropriate responsibility and develop their independence. Kids tend to be far more capable than we sometimes give them credit for.

It's not unusual to sometimes feel that things are easier and simpler if we "just do it ourselves" but by always doing things ourselves are we actually robbing children of opportunities to grow and develop? By adults always stepping in to do things for them, children receive the subtle message that adults don't think that they are capable. They are less willing to have a go at things if they already believe they can't. While it can sometimes be frustrating for us and take longer, allowing children the time and space to learn new skills, make mistakes and improve with regular practice is the way for them to become responsible, independent. resilient problem solvers.

Leading Australian Parent Educator Michael Grose has a new article on <u>"Raising Resilient</u> <u>Problem Solvers"</u> which is well worth a look.

Donna Falzon Family Liaison Officer

# **Parish Details**

Ph. 8379 1730 Email. toukleyparish@ bbcatholic.org.au Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-12pm.

### **Merit Awards**

Neve R Asha G Darcy P Lennox I Ivy C Skylah G Lola C Caspian W Josi C Max B Willow C Ruby P Hunter N Eva S Piper E Phoebe-Rene F Byron H Edward C Archer G Brax K Emilia R Eliette J Louis G Flynn O Koby D Nova B Connor V Dylan B Luca K Jackson J Harry H Linsey A Silongo K Matthew P Zack M Malachi P Trinity T Macey B Herbie G Candice B Edan R Kai R Isaac A

# A Spotlight on our Library































# **First Reconciliation**

#### **Canteen News**

This Friday Jun 19th the winter lunch special soup of the day is Chicken and Sweet Corn.



Reminder Canteen is CLOSED on Tuesdays.

Donna & Janet

# **Star Awards**

Harper J Van H Ruby B . Evalata M William M Teyah H Mia S Ezri D Andy B Bella Hu Marcus S Сосо Т Rose D Mayah H Charlie T Matilda S Sinead Ho Tara T Marshall S Cohan S Jack C











458 Main Road, Noraville NSW 2263

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

Fax:

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