



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 8
2 December 2020

2021 Student Parliament

Upcoming Events

- Year 6 Beach Day
Friday
4 December
- Awards Ceremony
Wednesday
9 December
- Year 6 Graduation
5.00-9.00pm
Wednesday
9 December
- Thanksgiving Mass
9.15am
Friday
11 December
- Guard of Honour
2.30pm
Wednesday
16 December
- Last Day of School
Wednesday
16 December
- Staff Return
Wednesday
27 January
- Uniform Shop Open
8.30am—3.00pm
Wednesday
27 January
- MAIs Years 1-6
Thursday
28 January
- Kinders Best Start
Thursday, Friday,
Monday
28 Jan—1 Feb
- Years 1-6
Commence
Friday
29 January
- Kinders commence
Tuesday
2 February

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

Our Student Parliament for 2021 has been named. We congratulate the following students: Year 5 - Matilda S, Mia M, Sinead H, Ruby H, Myah L, Zack M, Matthew P C, Toby W, Owen W and Bailey J; Year 4 - Summer M and Luca K.

The leadership of our Year 6 students in 2021 is critical. Repeatedly we have let the current Year 5 students know that you don't have to have a badge to be a leader. We look forward to leadership from every Year 6 student in 2021.

Farewell Leaving Staff

We acknowledge and farewell teachers who are leaving our school at the end of the year.

Mrs Houston has been a big part of our set up for many years. Having commenced at St Mary's in 2000, Maureen has regularly shared teaching a variety of primary classes. Maureen has dedicated many years of service to Catholic education and her Irish background has witnessed her wearing many shades of green on 17th March each year. We thank Mrs Houston for her tremendous efforts and for the positive, hope-filled outlook she shared with many, many kids. Your sense of teamwork has always benefitted and complemented our school. We also thank Maureen for her excellent leadership (with Chris Hochkins) of our school choir. We warmly wish you the very best Maureen for many years of good health with family and friends during your retirement.

We thank Mrs Cattabriga for devoting the first 5 years of her career teaching at our place. Ana has taught Kinder, Year 1 and Year 4 and throughout she has always held high expectations for the children's learning and wellbeing. Ana is a continual learner, always striving to improve herself for the benefit of the children in her care. We wish Mrs Cattabriga well as she takes up a teaching position at St Cecilia's, Wyong.

We appreciate the efforts of Mrs Martin during her 2 years teaching at St Mary's. Madie has taught both Year 3 and Kinder in her time with us. Thank you Mrs Martin for the

great care and professional approach you bring to your teaching. I believe it's the end of an era of the Martin name being connected to our school, either as parents, grandparents or as a teacher. Over 30 years, I believe. We wish Mrs Martin well as she takes up a teaching position at St Brendan's, Lake Munmorah.

Mrs Almi Toth has taught in various part-time positions at our school. Thanks Almi for your positive attitude and fine efforts in catering for the children in your care.

Parents in Partnership (PIP)

Our first Parents in Partnership meeting for our newly formed parents structure is at 7.00pm in the school grounds on Tuesday 8th December. All parents and carers should have received an invitation earlier in the week. We warmly welcome you to join us.

Awards Ceremony

Details for our adjusted 2021 Awards Ceremony were sent via Compass last Wednesday. Kinder and Year 1 (starting time 9.15am); Year 2 and Year 3 (starting time 9.45am); Year 4 and Year 5 (starting time 10.15am); Year 6 + Major Awards (starting time 10.45am). All awards will be held outside with a fixed number of adults able to join us.

Girls Uniform

A reminder that the new girls summer uniform is required to be worn by all girls from the first day of 2021.

Kind regards,

K Williams

Kevin Williams
Principal

ESellers

Emma Sellars
Principal

From Our REC

Advent Liturgies

Last Thursday we continued our preparation for Christmas. Kindergarten led the school reverently and beautifully in the Second Week of Advent. This Thursday, Year 3 and Year 4 will lead the Third Week of Advent. It will be held at 1.50pm. The zoom link is <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/96126902701>, alternatively you can use the code 9612 6902 701 to join the liturgy. All members of the school community are welcome to join us.

Class Masses

Last Friday Father Tomy celebrated mass with our Year 1 students. Our Year 1 students shared their learning of the "Hail Mary." Father Tomy was very impressed with how well they knew it. Thank you Father Tomy for coming and celebrating mass with all our classes.

Christmas Eve Mass

A compass message was sent out recently in regards to our annual parent organised Christmas Eve Mass. Each year the parents of St Mary's organise a wonderful ceremony. If you would like your child/ren involved please complete the simple survey using the link;

From Our Librarian

We are certainly winding down now that the end of term is in sight.

CALLING FOR ALL LIBRARY BOOKS!!!!

Borrowing is now finished and we are completing a final inventory of our library books. All borrowed books and guided readers are now due. If your child brings home a note of overdue books please help us by looking for and returning them as soon as possible. If a book has been damaged or lost you are able to replace the book with the same or similar title or pay for the cost of the book at the office.

WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR OLD UNWANTED LIBRARY BOOKS?

Each year as we conduct our inventory of the shelves we also examine the condition of our library books. Books that are looking worn and tired are deleted from our collection. Sometimes a tired book is kept because it is out of print and cannot be replaced. However deleted books still serve a worthwhile purpose. Each year we donate our old books to schools overseas. Knowing the incredible lack of resources such schools experience St Mary's is proud to support the literacy skills of these children in need.

<https://forms.gle/PYvTgxYK9CV3aA6s8> If the link isn't working please email catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au and I will add you to the list. We have a few students at the moment who would like to be involved but need a few more. The students will be practising on Thursday 10th December from 930-11, Tuesday 15th December from 930-11 and Tuesday 22nd of December from 930-1130.

Thanksgiving Mass

Year 6 are currently preparing for our final school mass for 2020, our Thanksgiving Mass. This will be held on Friday December 11th (Week 9) at 9.15am. Due to Covid restriction only Year 6 parents will be invited to the Mass. We will be live streaming via zoom. A zoom code will be sent out early next week. This is a particularly special mass and I encourage all members of our school community to view if they can.

Cath Kyle
Acting Religious Education Coordinator



HOLIDAY READING PLANS

What plans are you making to keep reading happening over the holidays? I am sure that your children have shelves of books waiting to be read and re-read! Has Santa got books on his list this year? School may be finishing soon but it is important to keep kids reading for pleasure over the summer break. Those children who continue reading maintain and build on their learning gains of this year. How can you make reading a natural and enjoyable part of these coming holidays?

OUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Are you a member of our local library? Why not join and take advantage of the children's programs provided over the summer holidays. Our Central Coast Library not only lends books and e-books but offers a wealth of online services and resources. Have you been thinking about investigating your family tree? The Central Coast Library holds resources that can help you make a start! I encourage every family to become members of invaluable incredible resource service.

Many thanks for your support and keep those books coming!!!!
Miss Gray
Librarian

A Spotlight on Kinder

In week 5, Kindergarten had their Assembly. We all had special jobs and showed the school all the things we have learnt this year.



In week 7, Kindergarten were responsible for the Second Advent Liturgy.



In our classes we have been learning to use new apps, like Padlet, on the iPads.



To prepare for Christmas Kindergarten made Elfie-Selfies.



Canteen News

2021 Canteen Volunteer forms were sent home with the newsletter in Week 5. Our school canteen relies on the generosity of our parent helpers to run effectively and if you are able to help out, just once a month, it would be greatly appreciated.

We are still in need of volunteers for next year so please return the completed form ASAP if you can help.

Reminder

The school canteen is **CLOSED** on Tuesdays.

Donna & Janet

2021 Student Parliament



Star Awards

Manaya M P
Poppy G
Siaosi M
Vincent B
Ella T
Sienna H
Caspian W
Frankie G
Thomas L
Cynthia A
Sam N
Kingston K
Kitty G
Dakota L



Kinder 2021



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