

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Toukley

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27th January 2021

School Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 2021 school year at St Mary's. We trust that your family enjoyed the summer holidays. We welcome all children and families back to our school with an especially warm welcome to our new Kinders and children starting at our place in the older grades.

Kinders

Kinder Best Start Assessments occur on Thursday 28th, Friday 29th and Monday 1st. Through Compass, please check the time and day for which you booked. Parents or carers are asked to wait outside the classroom for the 45 minute period. The first day of school for Kinder is Tuesday 2nd February. In adhering to COVID restrictions, each family has a 10 minute time frame for which they can have 2 adults join their Kinder child in their classroom to share in the excitement of the day and take some great photos.

For our Kinder children, the morning drop-off options for the month of February will be as follows:

- drop your child at any school entrance/gate or via drive-up **or**
- accompany your child into the school; encourage them to place their school bag on the bag rack and farewell your child.

For our Kinder children, the afternoon pick-up options for the month of February will be as follows:

- wait outside your child's classroom from 2.45-3.00pm **or**
- pick your child up from either the Pandora St gate, or from the main gate via drive-up or walk-up from 3.00-3.30pm.

Years 1-6

The first day of classes for Years 1-6 is Friday 29th January.

For our *Year 1* and *Year 2* children, the morning drop-off options for the month of February will be as follows:

- drop your child at any school entrance/gate or via drive-up (as per 2020)
- accompany your child onto the top playground inside the school and farewell them.

For *Year 3 - Year 6* children the morning drop-off remains the same:

- drop your child at any school entrance/gate or via drive-up (as per 2020).

Vision/Mission Statement

"Empowered by the Spirit, we at St Mary's live, learn and grow as disciples of Jesus in a nurturing Catholic Community."

For all *Year 1 - Year 6* children, the afternoon pick-up options will remain the same as in 2020:

- pick your child up from either the Pandora St gate, or from the main gate via drive-up or walk-up from 3.00-3.30pm.

MAI

Most Year 1-6 children will be engaged in the Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) on Thursday 28th January. We kindly ask parents to check the booking time that was made through Compass. Parents or carers are asked to wait outside the classroom for the 20 minutes period.

Uniforms and School Bags

Clear expectations for the children's school uniform will continue to be important this year. Our school's website has the necessary details. The Uniform Shop is open from 8.30am – 3.00pm on Wednesday 27th January. It then will be open daily for its usual hours, 8.15am – 9.45am. All children K-6 are required to have a St Mary's school bag. The 'new' girls summer uniform is now compulsory for all girls.

Canteen

Our Canteen is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. During Term 1 we will be introducing the online payment of lunch orders.

Assemblies/Sacred Spaces

Every second Thursday at 1.50pm we have a Sacred Space (duration 10 mins). At our Sacred Space a class or grade shares what they have been learning in Religious Education. Once per year each grade will lead an Assembly (duration 20 mins). At an Assembly a grade will share what they have been learning throughout the school year. We would love for you to join us. For those who cannot be physically present, we will continue to Zoom all Sacred Spaces and Assemblies throughout the year.

Welcome Evening

Our Welcome Evening is on Friday 12th February. We kindly ask you to put a couple of hours aside on this evening to join us to socially catch up and meet your child's teacher. We are waiting on advice as to whether we can proceed with this format.

If you have any questions regarding the above-mentioned items, please call us. We look forward to enjoying a year full of fun and learning.

Kind regards,

K Williams
Kevin Williams
Co-Principal

Emma Sellars
Emma Sellars
Co-Principal

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