



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 1
6 October 2021

Welcome to Term 4

Upcoming Events

- **Mission Liturgy**
Friday
29 October
9.00am
- **All Saints Liturgy**
Monday
1 November
2.00pm
- **Parent Workshop**
1 Kinder 2022 (via zoom)
Tuesday
9 November
9.30am-11.00am
- **Kinder 2022 Transition Day 1**
Wednesday
10 November
9.30am-11.00am
- **Remembrance Day Liturgy**
Thursday
11 November
9.00am
- **Parent Workshop**
2 Kinder 2022 (via zoom)
Tuesday
16 November
9.30am-11.00am
- **Kinder 2022 Transition Day 2**
Wednesday
17 November
9.30am-11.00am
- **Kinder 2022 Transition Day 3**
Wednesday
24 November
9.30am-11.00am
- **Kinder 2022 Transition Day 4**
Wednesday
1 December

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

Welcome to Term 4. It proves to be an exciting term as we get back into gear. Our Term Calendar is currently being finalised and contains a variety of opportunities for the kids to enjoy themselves and finish the year in a positive manner.

Many Liturgies and Masses are planned. The Annual Awards Ceremony will proceed. Our Year 6 Graduation Evening, an outdoor event, is on (Public Health Orders will dictate whether parents are able to attend). If things fall our way, we may even be able to have our Annual Christmas Carols (but after checking the Public Health Orders, unfortunately they don't prevent Mr Whiteford from sharing his jokes).

A Warm Welcome

A warm welcome to the following families who join our school community this term: *Bower family* - Daniel (3 Blue) and Isaac (1 Green). *Rongonui family* - Nikita (5 Green) and Eva (1 Gold). *Foran family* - Chelsea (5 Gold) and Lachlan (1 Gold). *Schilter family* - Theo (K Gold).

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

Kinder 2022 Transition Program

Our Kinder 2022 Transition Program commences at 9.30am on Wednesday 10th November and includes the following 3 Wednesdays (17 November, 24 November, 1st December). At this stage our Kinder 2022 cohort will be allowed onsite. Our Parents Sessions (2) will be zoomed and occur at 9.30am on Tuesday 9th and 16th November. Please view all relevant details on our website via this [link](#).

School Photos

Our annual School Photos Day was planned for this week. Due to the pandemic, we are trying to reorganise a date that will allow the photographic company to attend our school.

If You Need Help

After such a long period away from our place, if you think it may prove difficult to get your child to return to school please make contact with one of us (e.g. your child's teacher) as we have some ideas that will help.

Return to School Dates

The dates for the children to return to face-to-face learning are as follows:

Year	Date	Week
Kinder + Year 1	Monday 18 October	3
Years 2 + 6	Monday 25 October	4
Years 3, 4, 5	Monday 1 November	5

Your Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep the Sterrett family (Adelle 6Green) in your thoughts and prayers. Adelle's grandfather passed away recently. May your memories and Our Lord's blessings bring you great strength during this difficult time.

As We Discussed With

As we discussed with the staff earlier this morning, we are approaching Term 4 with a very positive mindset, appreciating that we will have all the children returning shortly. Routines will be re-established with wellbeing, our faith and learning taking priority. We intend for every grade to have a strong finish to the year.

Our wonderful Year 6 will be leading the way. Over the years, when I'm out and about on the Coast, sometimes I come across a kid I used to teach or who went to our school. Mind you, the "kid" might be about 20-25 years old. Frequently, they will talk about the great memories they have of Year 6 and about it being one of the most memorable times in their education, be it primary, high school, post-school or tertiary. It's fitting that our excellent Year 6 leaders are able to return to school with time to enjoy the final term of their primary schooling.

Kind regards,

Kevin Williams
Co Principal

Liz Hartge
Co Principal

Parish Details

Ph. 4396 4455
Email. toukleyparish@bbcatholic.org.au
Office Hours. Monday-Friday
9.00am-2.00pm



From Our REC

Confirmation

We are waiting to hear from the Diocese as to when the Confirmation ceremony will be held. As soon as we know we will let you know. Over the holidays Alicia from the parish sent us some photos of the beautiful sacred spaces our students created as part of their Confirmation preparation.



Socktober - Mission Month

During the month of October we have a focus on mission and how we can support our global Catholic community. This year the focus country is Thailand. During the first four weeks of this term our students will learn about specific concerns for the people of Thailand. Hopefully when the students return later this term, we will be able to hold a crazy sock day and a soccer match between the teachers and our Year 6 students.

Kids 4 Community

An initiative we have here for our Stage 3 students is Kids 4 Community. One student, Zali has continued her social justice and Catholic Discipleship mission by continuing this through our lockdown. She has gone out into the local area and picked up rubbish along the coastline and along Budgewoi lake. Zali has created cards and dropped them at local aged care facilities to brighten up the residents day. We are so proud of her initiative! Keep up the great work!

Catherine Kyle
Acting Religious Education Coordinator



From Our Family Liaison Officer

Welcome back. With the return to school for students getting closer, coming back into the classroom can be a huge adjustment for some children. For most, things have been more flexible and relaxed at home for an extended period now and it may be like returning after the long Christmas break. Now would be a great time to start getting back into the normal school routine to help that transition to school easier.

Going to bed at a reasonable time and getting enough sleep, getting up at the time you usually would when going to school, having breakfast and getting dressed first thing in the morning are all things that you could start reintroducing now to hopefully decrease any dramas when getting them ready for school on day one of their return. You can find some more information on morning routines for school at [Raising Children Network](#).

Children will respond to the return to school in a variety of ways. Some will be excited, happy or energised while others may be out of sorts, anxious or lethargic and it could show in their behaviour. Children, particularly young children, don't always have the vocabulary to explain their emotions but they can show it.

As the important adults in children's lives it's really helpful for us to understand that all of these emotions are OK, to let the children know that it's OK to have those feelings, and to then help guide them to express how they feel in appropriate ways. Adults focusing on the feelings rather than the behaviour they may be seeing and then naming those feelings for children can help reassure and calm them and give them the language they need to express themselves. Modelling behaviour for children when dealing with big feelings is a powerful tool that adults can use to guide and support them as children notice and absorb everything we do, including how we manage worries, frustrations and fears.

If you have any questions about the students return to school or any concerns about how your children may manage please don't hesitate to contact school and seek advice.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer

A Spotlight on Year 1

Year 1 have been having lots of fun and doing a great job during Home Based Learning.
We can't wait to see you all back in Week 3!



From the Office

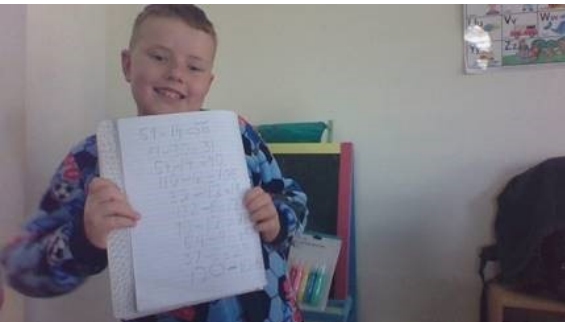
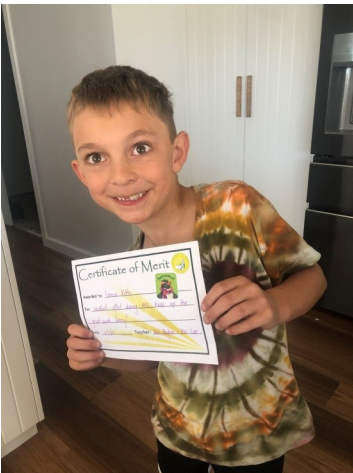
As we are now posting our weekly merit awards, could you please ensure we have your correct residential address. You can call the office on 4396 5100.

Thank you

Canteen News

The canteen has now opened for lunch orders only. All orders are to be made via Qkr! by 9.00am each morning. No cash will be accepted through the canteen at this time.

Thank you
Donna and Janet



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