



## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 7  
17 November 2021

# Sacrament of Confirmation

## Upcoming Events

- *Kinder 2022 Transition Day 3*  
Wednesday  
24 November  
9.30am-11.00am
- *Sacrament of Confirmation*  
Saturday  
27 November
- *Kinder 2022 Transition Day 4*  
Wednesday  
1 December  
9.30am-11.00am
- *Sacrament of Confirmation*  
Saturday  
4 December
- *Students Last Day*  
Wednesday  
15 December

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

On Saturday 27th November and Saturday 4th December children from our school and parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Confirmation witnesses the children being blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation, a sacrament of initiation, establishes recipients as full-fledged members of the Catholic faith. This sacrament is called *Confirmation* because the faith given in baptism is now confirmed and made strong. During your baptism, your parents and godparents made promises and now, during the Sacrament of Confirmation, these promises are renewed. The symbolic actions of Confirmation include:

### The Laying On of Hands

The bishop places his hands on the head of the candidates and prays for the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

This ritualises the connection to Baptism and the strengthening of the Holy Spirit in our vocation to follow the way of Jesus.

### Anointing with Oil

The anointing of the candidate at Confirmation recognises that they are **sealed** with the Holy Spirit. The bishop anoints the candidate's forehead with the Oil of Chrism, saying "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit".

If you are baptised you are an eligible candidate for Confirmation. Please keep our children preparing for the beautiful Sacrament of Confirmation in your thoughts and prayers.

## Repairs and Maintenance

The internal painting of our school's Library is completed. It looks great! The external painting of the Library is now underway. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Library has been erected.

## Kinder Transition 2

Our Kinder Transition 2 was earlier today with the third session at 9.30am on Wednesday 24th November. While all the kids are required for each Transition session, parents are also welcome to attend a workshop.

## St Brigid's and MacKillop

On Friday 19th November both St Brigid's and MacKillop have their High School Taster Day for our current Year 6 students.

## Classes for 2022

Our teachers are currently finalising the makeup of the classes for 2022. Each year significant changes are made to class cohorts. The children learn of their 2022 class and teacher on Friday 10th December.

## Reports

During Semester 2, the children spent the majority of time in a Home Based Learning environment. Consequently, an abridged Report reflecting the nature of Home Based Learning and some face-to-face teaching will be posted via Compass on Friday 10th December. The most significant part of the Report is the detailed comment written by your child's teacher.

Kind regards,

Kevin Williams  
Co Principal

Liz Hartge  
Co Principal



## Parish Details

Ph. 4396 4455  
Email. [toukleyparish@bbccatholic.org.au](mailto:toukleyparish@bbccatholic.org.au)  
Office Hours. Monday-Friday  
9.00am-2.00pm

## Merit Awards

Jacob K  
Missy D  
Lillian M  
Benji A  
Poppy G  
Grace L  
Harry C  
Adalita S  
Riley G  
Charlotte C  
Caspian W  
Flynn R  
Stephanie M  
Taj R  
Vinnie E  
Emeri B  
Clive Z  
Hunter H  
Cynthia A  
Isabella C  
Olivia D  
Sienna G  
Eden L T  
Willow F  
Oscar L  
Max W  
Charli D  
Connor V B  
Scarlett W  
James M  
Indy K  
Bailey F  
Matthew P C  
Vasiliki P  
Van H  
Zac Bshara  
Tianna O C  
Ayla C  
Ezri D  
Coco T

## From Our REC

## Remembrance Day Liturgy

Last Thursday Mr Merlino and Year 6 led the school in our Remembrance Day Liturgy. It was a beautiful time to reflect on the men and women who have died in the line of duty.

## Advent Liturgies

This week we will begin our Advent Liturgies. These will be held outside, each Thursday at 10.30am. We will zoom these liturgies to our community. The zoom link is <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/63732421405> alternatively you can use the meeting code 637 3242 1405. Below is our timetable for which grades will be leading the liturgies each week.

Week 1 - 18th Nov	Year 1 and Year 2
Week 2 - 25th Nov	Year 5 and Year 6
Week 3 - 2nd Dec	Kindergarten
Week 4 - 9th Dec	Year 3 and Year 4

## Christ the King - This Weekend

This weekend the church celebrates the Feast Day of Christ the King. Our Parish would like as many children as possible to attend and drop flowers as part of the procession to the Mary statue outside. Members of our parish will prepare baskets of flower petals for our students. If you would like your children (even preschoolers) to participate please email me to let me know

[catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

## From Our Family Liaison Officer

Well developed Emotional Intelligence is now seen as one of the most important skills that an individual can have. It is what employers now look for, it can help sustain positive relationships, it helps us cope with life's ups and downs and helps maintain positive wellbeing. Emotional intelligence develops over time and can certainly be learnt. Naturally you would expect a child in Year 6 to be more aware and better able to manage their emotions and behaviour than a child just starting out in Kindergarten, but it's never too early to start teaching children about their emotions and develop their emotional skills. An article from education writer Linda Stade "[here](#)" has some tips for parents about how to help build a strong

## Christmas Eve Children's Mass

Christmas is a very special time of the year. If your family will be attending Christmas Eve Mass here at St Mary's Parish (6pm) and your child would like a part in the mass (there are both reading and non-reading parts available, children K-6 welcome) please complete the link below. Samantha Hanham, one of our parents and parishioners is organising this event with Sister Jennifer. <https://forms.gle/T3D5ggC3hLRtjNXr6>

## St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers 2021

Last week we began collecting food for the St. Vincent De Paul Hampers. Each year all classes are asked to create a food hamper for families doing it tough. Your child/ren should have received a star asking them to contribute a food item to add to the class Christmas Hamper. Hampers will be presented to St Vincent de Paul at an Advent Liturgy. We thank you for your support in helping those in need.

## Confirmation

The Confirmation ceremonies have now been confirmed by the Bishop's Office. They will be Saturday 27th November and Saturday 4th December at 11am. Please contact the Parish Office to book in for your child's ceremony.

Catherine Kyle  
Acting Religious Education Coordinator



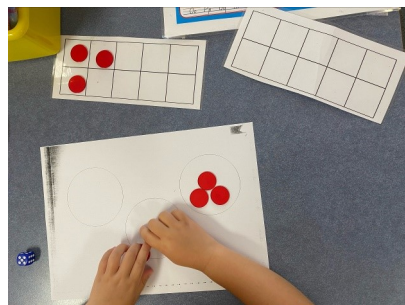
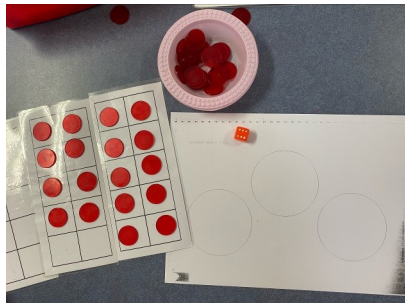
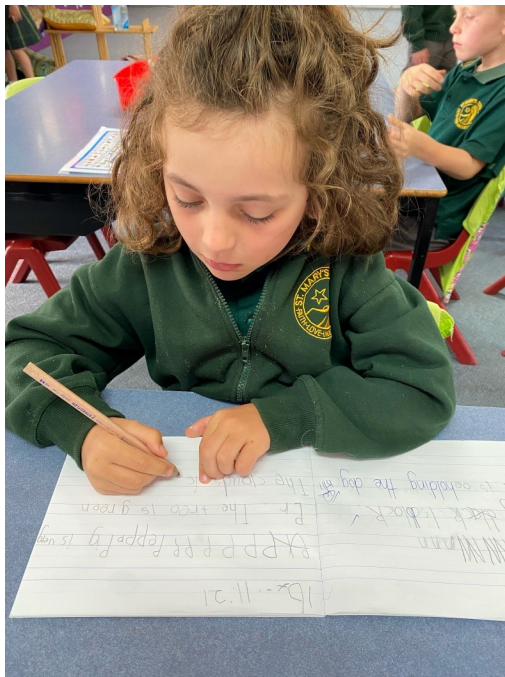
emotional foundation to set children up for a positive future.

We have many transitions happening at the moment —Year 6 have their High School taster day on Friday, our 2022 Kinder children are in the middle of their transition programme and all students will be waiting in anticipation of finding out their class and teacher for next year. It's a time of great excitement for the children, but it can also cause some worry or trepidation. We encourage all children to look forward to what the new school year will bring with an attitude of confidence and optimism.

Donna Falzon  
Family Liaison Officer



# A Spotlight on Kinder



## Canteen News

The canteen is now open 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.

Canteen volunteer forms for 2022 have been sent home today. Please complete and return by Friday November 26 if you are able to help.

Thank you  
Donna and Janet

## School Banking update from Commonwealth Bank

For 90 years, our School Banking program has helped children learn about money, reinforced the importance of regular savings and provided structure for parents to support their children to save.

Though the program continues to have strong support from schools, parents and teachers, recent decisions by some state and territory governments because of a review by the corporate regulator mean we are unable to continue providing programs in schools, and we have had to make a difficult decision to close our School Banking program for all government and non-government schools across the country.

Our School Banking program was established in 1931 at a time when having a bank account was not commonplace, and since then we have helped more than 15 million Australians take their first financial steps. This would not have been possible without the wonderful support we have received from schools like yours, including all the parents and volunteers, and for this we are deeply grateful. Thank you.

Even though this is a sad time, School Banking has taught so many young Australians, past and present, the value of money and we believe this should be celebrated. We have created a place for you to share your stories, fondest memories and lessons learnt through the program. To share your story and access our financial education resources, please visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](https://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking).

Even though the CommBank School Banking program will not be returning to your school after this year, you can continue to make deposits into your child's Youthsaver account through online transfers or at any CommBank branch. If you need further information please phone 132 221 or visit your local CommBank branch.

## Star Awards

Sage C  
Katy-Leigh P  
Billy L  
Anne T  
Hailey G  
Lachlan B  
Ashlee S  
Gwyneth M  
Harry P  
Coco O C  
Mia S  
Brooklyn C  
Louis G  
Ava S  
Chelsea B  
Zara B  
Harry M  
Benjamin R  
Shelby M

### Are you interested in becoming a Catechist?

Do you enjoy working with children? Toukley/Lake Munmorah Parish are in urgent need of 5 new Catechists in our Parish to teach Catholic scripture in local public schools. You can either lead a class or be a helper for one of our current Catechists. Classes run once a week for approx. 30 minutes. If you've ever considered this rewarding Ministry, please speak with Fr Tomy or Fr Baby after Mass or contact the Parish Office for more information [toukleyparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:toukleyparish@bbcatholic.org.au) or ph 4396 4455. Training & support provided. We'd love to hear from you!

## ICAS Testing

ICAS tests will continue on Friday. It is important students are on time for these assessments. This Friday 19th November, students sitting the Spelling Bee will need to bring headphones with them. When students arrive at school please wait on the seats.

Assessment	Date	Time
Spelling Bee	Friday 19th November	8.00am
Mathematics	Monday 22nd November	8.00am
Year 6 Spelling Bee	Monday 22nd November	12.15pm
Makeup for missed Assessments	Monday 22nd November	12.15pm



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