



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Year 6

Term 4 Week 10
8 December 2021



Upcoming Events

- Year 6 Graduation Dinner
Wednesday
8 December
- Year 6 Thanksgiving Mass
9.15am
Friday
10 December
- Student Reports posted on Compass
Friday
10 December
- Students Last Day
Wednesday
15 December
- MAI Years 1-6
Monday
31 January
- Kinder Best Start Assessments
Monday
31 January
- Students First Day Years 1-6
1 February
- Kinder Best Start Assessments
Tuesday
1 February
- Kinder Best Start Assessments
Wednesday
2 February
- Kinder First Day
Thursday
3 February

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

As this is our final newsletter for the year, we need to acknowledge, thank and congratulate our tremendous Year 6 students.

Repeatedly, over the past 7 years this group of children have continued to be kind, thoughtful kids who look out for each other. As they have grown older they have been excellent role models for the younger children. It has always been easy to comment, "Look at the wonderful example Year 6 are setting." Although HBL punctuated their final year at our school, the manner in which they have returned after lockdown has been brilliant.

During the next few days we have a number of occasions in which to celebrate Year 6. Our Awards Ceremony, Graduation, Thanksgiving Mass and Guard of Honour. It is only fitting that such a great group of kids will be recognised and celebrated so wholeheartedly. Congratulations and farewell, Year 6!

Thanksgiving Mass

At 9.15am on Friday we celebrate and give thanks for our Year 6 in one of our most beautiful and spirit-filled Masses of the year. All (vaccinated) Year 6 parents are welcome to join us in our Church. Years 4, 5 and 6 will join the parents and designated staff for our Mass.

Confirmation

On Saturday, in a beautiful liturgy, another 25 children from our school and parish were conferred with the Sacrament of Confirmation by Father Tomy. As noted in Father Tomy's homily, sometimes we receive gifts that break or wear out but the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit given to us in Confirmation are with us for life. Congratulations girls and boys.

Reports and Classes for 2022

On Friday afternoon your child's Report will be posted via Compass. Due to the extended lockdown, the Semester 2 Report will be quite different to the traditional version. As the vast majority of time for the children was spent learning from home, the only KLA's in the Report will be Religion, English and Maths. An extensive comment from the teachers will be central to the Report. From reading the Reports there is much for families to celebrate.

Late on Friday your child will receive a slip of paper detailing their class teacher and class name for 2022.

The Blessings of Christmas

May your family come to enjoy the rich blessings of Our Lord during this Christmas season. Please see inside our newsletter for Christmas Mass times.

Leaving Families

Each year we farewell families who have been with us for many years. We thank and express our deep gratitude for the part you played in adding richly to the culture of our school. Your support, your balanced approach and your generosity have been appreciated. Most of all, we value that you trusted us to help in the formation of your child. Thank you to the following families: Brakell, Clark, Horan, Jones, Plumb, Smith, Sneddon, Sterrett, Sullivan, Wilson, Bullock, Buxton, Froome, McDonald, Ribeiro-Cash, Thackray, Thorne, Williams, Anderson, Chung, MacMahon, McGill, Quinn, Sinclair, Tetstall, Loder, Carr and Hale families.

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

Merit Awards

Taj C
Theo S
Sage M
Emma L
Charlotte A
Adam D
Eli F
Neve R
Jackson M
Hayden S
Maddison H
Kohi B
Benny E
Penelope R
Sienna H
Hunter P
Jazz B
Holly L T
Harry B
Henry H
Havana G
Seth T
Tayla G
Ben G
Emilia R
Ivy D
Nova B
Rose D
Charlotte G
Sumira D
Josephine R
Yumi S
Rose M
Vincent E
Emmanuelle D
Summer D
Archer G
Ruby R
Rylee F
Portia R
Ellie B
Zahra D

From Our REC

Confirmation

Last Saturday many of our Year 3 students made their Confirmation. It was a wonderful sacrament celebrated by Father Tomy and Father Baby. Thank you to our Parish Sacramental Team for preparing our students.

Advent Liturgies

Last Thursday Kindergarten led our community in the Third Week of Advent Liturgy. They did this beautifully and with reverence. This week Year 3 and Year 4 will lead us in the Fourth Week of Advent. The zoom link is <https://bbcatholic.zoom.us/j/63732421405> alternatively you can use the meeting code 637 3242 1405.

Mr Bob Steele from St Vincent DePaul attended and presented Zali and Summer with the Blessed Frederic Ozanam Award at the conclusion of our liturgy. They received this special award for demonstrating a significant contribution and commitment to social justice and community service. In addition to this Mr Steele presented our Year 5 and 6 students who took part in the Kids 4 Community initiative.

Mr Steele also thanked our students for their contributions not only to the Christmas Hampers but throughout the whole year. The hampers we created in each of our classes will be distributed in the coming weeks to families who need extra support this Christmas. Thank you to all our families who contributed, Bob was overwhelmed by the generosity.

From our Librarian

BOOK PARADE DAY

A big THANK YOU to all of our families for your efforts at this late stage of the year and the incredible Book Parade costumes. We saw witches and wizards, fairies and elves, princesses and super heroes, Captain Underpants, Mario and Luigi, Harry Potter and even Hedwig in her cage, and many, many more characters from the books we love to read. The children had a fantastic time. Thank you to our Year 6 students for preparing and reading a picture book to children across each of the grades. Thank you to our teachers for their tireless enthusiasm.

CALLING FOR ALL LIBRARY BOOKS!!!!

All library books are now due. I am still waiting for over 200 books to be returned by the end of this week.

Christmas Mass times (no bookings this year)

You are more than welcome to join our Parish for Christmas Mass. Below are the times for both St Mary's Toukley and St Brendan's Lake Munmorah.

Christmas Mass St Mary's, Toukley
Christmas Eve: 6pm Vigil incl. Children's Nativity
Carols 11.30pm, Midnight Mass
Christmas Day: 7.30am and 9am (no evening Mass)
Sun 26th Dec: 7.30am and 9am (no evening Mass)

St Brendan's, Lake Munmorah
Christmas Eve: 5pm Vigil Children's Mass (Carols at 4.30pm)
Christmas Day: 8am (no evening Mass)
Sun 26th Dec: 8am

Catherine Kyle
Acting Religious Education Coordinator



If your child brings home a note of overdue books please help us by looking for and returning them as soon as possible. If any books are lost or damaged payment to replace the copies can be made at the office.

Many thanks for your support of our library during this topsy-turvy year. I wish everyone a happy, safe and well-deserved holiday with family and friends. And remember reading books just doesn't happen at school but is as important at home or away on holidays over this summer break. Keep on reading a good book or an old favourite.

Miss Gray
Librarian



Kinder 2022 Students with their Year 6 buddies



Book Character Parade

Star Awards

Jordan S
Walter D
Ivie T
Abigail H
Remmi W
Lillian A
Amelia D
Asha G
Lawson O
Flynn B
Marley B
Thomas L
Ezri D
Bethany M
Eden L T
Eliette J
Oscar Lo
Lexie L
Tom B
Mia M
Bailey F



Thank You To Our PIP Team Helpers

A big thank you to all of the parents who have helped out over the past two weeks to cater for and provide a warm hospitality environment for our Kinder Transition Morning Tea and Merry Christmas Morning Tea for St. Mary's Staff. Without your support to provide delicious food and to help set up the space we wouldn't be able to host such caring community events.

The PIP Leadership Team would also like to extend a warm thank you to the many helping hands who have jumped on board the community spirit train this year, helping out as volunteers for the many events we have held. Despite Covid derailing us for a little while, we plan to chug along, full steam ahead into 2022 with more fun and inclusive events for our happy St. Mary's community. Our place is made such a special place because of likes of our wonderful supportive families.

Merry Christmas and Fun Festivities
From The PIP Leadership Team



Canteen News

Urgent—at least 2 canteen volunteers needed for this Friday, Dec 10. Please contact the office on 4396 5100 if you are able to help.

Reminder 1—Friday December 10 will be the last day for lunch orders. Canteen will not be open Week 11.

Reminder 2—QKR! —Please ensure that lunch orders are completed before 9am each morning. Every day we have children coming to the canteen expecting a lunch order but it has been forgotten or put through on a different day. While we always make sure they have something to eat, it is quite upsetting for them. You are able to pre-order lunches the night before, even up to 2 weeks ahead.

Reminder 3—If you are able to help out in the canteen next year, for as little as 2 hours once a month please complete the volunteer form that was sent home in Week 7 or contact the office. We are always looking for volunteers—particularly Wednesdays and Thursdays next year and any help is very much appreciated.

458 Main Road, Norville NSW 2263

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

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