



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Our New Kinders

Term 1 Week 3
9 February 2022

Upcoming Events

- School Swimming Carnival Years 2-6**
Monday
14 February
- Kinder Parent Workshop**
6.00pm
Monday
21 February
- Opening School Mass**
11.30am
Friday
25 February
- Kinder 2023 Enrolment Information Evening**
6.30pm
Monday
28 February
- Kinder 2023 Playgroup**
9.15-10.30am
Tuesday
1 March
- Kinder 2023 School Tour**
10.30am
Tuesday
1 March
- Year 5 Bathurst**
Thursday-Friday
10-11 March
- School Cross Country**
Friday
18 March

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

It has been a big week for our Kindergarten and Year 6 children! We are so very proud of the way our kinder children have started at our school. The children have been settled during learning time, are independently unpacking their bags and enjoying recess and lunch breaks with their Year 6 buddies.

Kinder parents, thank you for your effort in bringing the children to school on time and giving them the space to grow into their independence. They are succeeding because of your actions.

Year 6

Year 6, you must be commended on the calm and respectful way you have started the year. Already, you have stepped up as our student leaders and set a tremendous example for our Kinders (and all other students) to follow. You really are doing a great job, well done!

COVID

Thank you to the families who are calling the school to inform us when you are either in isolation or a positive COVID case. Please continue to let us know whenever this changes.

Swimming Carnival

Our Swimming Carnival (Year 2 - Year 6) is on Monday. A huge thank you to Mrs Bain who works tirelessly to organise an event where all of our children have a marvellous day. Please remember it is a compulsory school day where every child participates. **Important reminder:** All children, with the exception of those participating in the early 100m event, are to travel to and from the carnival by bus. No children are to leave the carnival early. Buses leave school at 9.00am and will arrive back to school for 3.00pm dismissal. A note has been sent home today with your child if you are a parent helper.

STARS

Our STARS are our school rules. They help to guide our behaviours in a positive way. Our STARS stand for:

- S** - Share Fun
- T** - Think Safe, Act Safe
- A** - Act Responsibly
- R** - Respect all the God has made
- S** - Speak with Kindness

Tomorrow, our Year 6 students will lead our school assembly and remind everyone about our STARS. Please ask your child about it.

Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

Mobile phones are only permitted at school when a special exemption has been granted. All student mobiles must be handed in to the school office before the morning bell. Other devices including watches in which you can use video, receive calls, text messages etc. are not permitted at school.

Lost lunches

Have you changed your child's class to their 2022 class on the Qkr App? A number of children each day are looking for their lunches as they are labelled with the information from the app by our parent volunteers. Please update their class before the next order.

Important: The canteen will be **closed for lunch orders** next Monday 14th February due to the Swimming Carnival.

Kinder Parent Workshop

Today, an invitation will go home with our Kinder students for all Kinder Parents to attend our Kinder Information Workshop on Monday 21st February. It is an opportunity to hear from the Kinder teachers about the daily classroom happenings and our Literacy Coordinators about how you can support your child's reading at home. We look forward to seeing you all there. Please send back the RSVP as soon as possible.

Kinder 2023 Information Evening

We are now enrolling for Kindergarten 2023. If you know of anyone who may be interested in finding out more about St Mary's or collecting an enrolment pack, please let them know about our Information Evening, Monday 28th February at 6.30pm.

Kind regards,

Emma Sellars
Principal

Parish Details

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

Piano Tuition

There are currently vacancies for piano tuition during school hours. Please contact Chris Hochkins for further details.
Ph. 0414 186 044



From Our REC

Opening School Mass

Our K-6 Opening School Mass is on **Friday 25th February** at 11.30. At this stage Year 1, 5 and 6 will attend mass with Year 3 and 4 choir children. The rest of our school will watch mass via zoom. We will send out the zoom code closer to the mass for parents and grandparents to view via zoom.



Sacred Space - Year 6

This Thursday at 1.50pm our Year 6 students will lead us in our first sacred space. The theme is our school STARS. A zoom code will be sent out on Thursday morning if you would like to join us. Please remember to turn your microphone to mute.

From our Family Liaison Officer

Welcome back to the new school year. As Family Liaison Officer my role is to provide support, information and reassurance to parents/ carers about the practicalities of school life, offer strategies on how to be engaged with your children's learning to maximise their achievement and wellbeing, be a listening ear for concerns you may have and where needed provide practical support and/ or organise referrals to outside agencies when challenging family times arise.

Particularly for our new parents/ carers, please remember that there is no such thing as a silly question and if there are things you may be unsure of please don't hesitate to ask either your child's class teacher or myself. Our aim is to develop a strong partnership between all parents/ carers and staff to maximise each child's learning and wellbeing. Please feel free to contact me, Monday to Friday, either in person or by phone.

As the year progresses and Covid-19 restrictions hopefully ease, we will be able to welcome parents and carers back into our school. This will mean more opportunities for you to get to know other parents and our staff and become more engaged with

Grade Sunday Masses

This year we will be reintroducing each grade attending one Sunday mass each year. We are wanting to build our relationship with our Parish and make stronger connections. These masses will be at 9am. Our students will lead a variety of ministries. Our first mass will involve Kindergarten and Year 6 and take place on Sunday 6th March. This is a mass where our Kindergarten students and their families are welcomed into our Parish family. Year 6 will lead most of the ministries and Kindergarten will sing a song after communion. It is a great opportunity for our Kinders to see their Year 6 buddy outside of school.

Later in the term Year 1 will celebrate on Sunday 3rd April. This is the Sunday before Palm Sunday and Holy Week.

Cath Kyle
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

your child's learning and our school community. Until then, keeping up to date with what is happening in your child's class and the wider school community by reading the weekly school newsletter, letters and notes sent home via Compass, completing your child's home reading and reading log each day and talking with your child about their day at school are all important things you can do to be engaged with school life.

It has been great to see our youngest students start Kinder so positively. They are quickly developing their independence and skills in managing the school routine. For Kinder students, everything at big school is a new experience for them and takes time to master. When children are encouraged to do things for themselves they tend to master skills quicker and also feel a sense of accomplishment and positive self esteem, which then gives them confidence to 'have a go' at new things. We know how very capable they are and are here to support them to achieve their best - socially, emotionally and academically.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer

A Spotlight on Kinder



Canteen News

Canteen open for lunch orders only Weeks 2 to 5. Orders via the Qkr! app—details on how to use Qkr! are on our school website [‘here’](#). Please remember to update your child’s class for this year on their Qkr! profile.

Unfortunately we have had to increase the menu price of quite a number of canteen items this year due to increased food manufacturing costs being passed on to us from our suppliers.

If any parents/ carers are interested in volunteering in the canteen, for as little as 2 hours once a month, please contact the school office and let us know. Extra helpers are always welcome.

Thank you
Donna and Lauren

From Our PE Teacher

St Mary's Swimming Carnival

We are looking forward to a wonderful day next Monday 14th February at Mingara. Children in the 100m will need to be dropped off by parents for a 9am start. All other children will travel by bus for a 9.30am start. **Please make sure children have a rashie / shirt and hat for the outside activities.** Please label all clothing. All children need to remain to the end of the Carnival at 2pm. Due to COVID restrictions we are not allowed spectators but can have limited helpers. I have taken parent helpers from notes that were returned from 1st - 4th February. A note has been sent home to these parents. Thank you everyone who volunteered to help us. I look forward to seeing you all as the year goes on.

I am hoping by the time we have Cross Country we can have everything back to NORMAL!!!

Also, congratulations to our Sports Vice Captains:

- | | |
|--------|----------------------|
| Blue: | Chloe S + Kingston K |
| Red: | Koby D + Willow F |
| Gold: | Milla A + Brooklyn C |
| Green: | Kirrilee F + Seth T |

Liz Bain
Sports Coordinator



Canteen Closed Monday 14th February

Due to Years 2-6 attending our school swimming carnival next Monday 14th February, the canteen will be unavailable for lunch orders on this day.

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