



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The Season of Lent

Term 1 Week 7
9 March 2022

Upcoming Events

- Year 5 Bathurst Thursday-Friday 10-11 March
- School Cross Country Friday 18 March
- Wear Orange for Harmony Day Friday 25 March
- Parent Paint and Prayer Morning 9.15am Monday 28 March
- Catholic Schools Week Liturgy and Open Classrooms 2.15pm Liturgy 2.40pm Open Classrooms Tuesday 29 March
- St Mary's Playgroup 9.15am Wednesday 30 March
- St Mary's School Tour 10.30am Wednesday 30 March
- Year 6 Graduation Meeting 3.15pm Tuesday 5 April

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

This Lenten Season we are, once again, asked to 'turn back to God'. Lent is the season in which we prepare for the mystery of Easter. It is a special time of forty days in which we joyfully embrace a conversion of heart. In this time of penance, the three key activities are prayer, almsgiving (giving to those in need) and fasting.

Last week we marked the beginning of this most important season with Ash Wednesday. During Mass, the children all received ashes on their forehead as a symbol of embracing change and turning back to God.

During Lent, children learn about the work of Caritas Australia in their Religion lessons. They hear the stories of people in need from Australia and around the world. Their class discussions then centre around our call to discipleship and how we can each help others during the Lenten Season. In each classroom there is a Project Compassion donation box. Children are able to donate into these whenever they choose.

Amazing Isla

This Saturday 12th March, our wonderful Year 5 student Isla C is shaving her head as part of the World's Greatest Shave. The event will take place at Toukley Golf Club from 4pm. We are so proud of Isla, her amazing selfless actions and the money she is raising for the Leukemia Foundation. If you would like to support Isla, you can do so at www.worldsgreatestshave.com/donate

Bathurst

Tomorrow our Year 5 students embark on their overnight excursion to Bathurst. It will be an exciting, albeit wet, two days for them as they learn about life on the Goldfield. Have a great time!

Kinder 2023

Enrolment packs are now being returned and interviews begin in just a few weeks. If you haven't yet returned your enrolment pack, please do so as soon as possible. Our next Playgroup will be held on Wednesday March 30th, 9.15am.

Cross Country

Yesterday a permission note was opened on Compass for our School Cross Country, scheduled for next Friday 18th (if this rainy weather ever clears!). Please log in and sign this note as soon as possible. We look forward to parents attending this year, but ask that you sit around the perimeter of Jenny Dixon Reserve, rather than with the children under the trees.

Parish Mass

Thank you to the many families who attended Mass last Sunday for our Year 6 and Kinder Family Mass. It was a wonderful turnout.

On Sunday 3rd April it will be **Year 1's** turn to attend the 9.00am Parish Mass. An invitation has been sent home. We look forward to seeing you all there. School uniform is not required.

Reading

Reading is so important. I'd like to remind you all that Reading is compulsory every night for all children Kinder - Year 6. It is also required that a parent sign the reading log (K-4) or diary (Year 5 - 6). Thank you for supporting your child's reading.

Your Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep the Millington Family (Will 6Green) in your thoughts and prayers. Will's grandfather passed away recently. We trust that our Lord's strength gives you considerable comfort in your time of grief.

Kind regards,

Emma Sellars
Principal

Parish Details

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

Merit Awards

Elizabeth J
Caleb N
Rose T
James D
Oliver L
Logan R
Harrison D
Owen M
Mackenzie O
Billy S D
Bailey K
Kamryn M
Eadie M
Vincent N
Archie W
Remmi W
Malaki B
Jonah R
Madison C
Isaac B
Harrison B
Anika L
Ava S
Noah B
Frankie G
Phoenix W
Arlie M
Andy B
Connor D
Sunie T
Zoe D
Vanessa M
Ellie B
Rose D



Mini Vinnies support for Tonga



Kinder + Year 6 Mass

From Our REC

Kindergarten and Year 6 Sunday Welcome Mass

Thank you to all our Kindergarten and Year 6 families who braved the wet weather and joined us for mass on Sunday. It was a beautiful celebration and we loved seeing the children so involved in our mass. You couldn't wipe the smile off Father Tomy's face, he was so excited and happy to have you all there.

Mini Vinnies - Support for Tonga

Thank you to all the families who supported this initiative. We dropped our donations off to the Parish Office on Friday. Over the weekend Warnervale Rugby Club collected them and will add them to the wider community collection. These will be shipped to Tongan as soon as they can.

Ash Wednesday Mass

Last Wednesday we celebrated our Ash Wednesday Mass. Students from K-2 watched via zoom and received ashes when the students did during mass. We are very proud of the behaviour of our students and their singing as always is amazing. Thank you to the parents who joined us via zoom.

Prayer and Paint

Yesterday I sent home an invitation to all parents to attend our "Prayer and Paint,"

From our Family Liaison Officer

Wellbeing Week at St Mary's is coming up in Week 9, March 21-25, which also includes Harmony Day. While we always have plenty of great activities for the kids, this term we would like to include our parents/ carers in our wellbeing focus. On Monday March 21 we will be holding a 'Wellbeing Walk'. Leaving school after morning assembly we will head to Jenny Dixon reserve where we will gather for morning tea and mindfulness, weather permitting. Babies in prams and preschoolers are welcome. If it is raining we will gather in the Hall for with toys/ games for little ones to play with. Please bring a towel or blanket to sit on. If you are interested in joining us please send me a quick email, donna.falzon@dbb.catholic.edu.au or call the office, 4396 5100.

Our Wellbeing Week theme is 'Inclusivity', which ties in perfectly with Harmony Day. Families at our school come from many different backgrounds and cultures, which all adds to the richness of our community. A major part of someone's cultural background is food and it always brings people together. We would like to gather recipes

Parent Engagement session in Week 10. This is an opportunity for all parents (not just those with children in Kinder) to learn about the new Kindergarten RE curriculum and to help paint resources. Many of the resources are wooden dolls to make presentations for Kinder but there are often other resources such as the raised map of Israel. Our kindergarten children will be using this next week. If you would like to attend please email catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au, call the school office or sign up using the PIP teams link <https://signup.com/go/mpKZvNj>.

Year 1 Sunday Mass

Please keep Sunday April 3rd free for those families with Year 1 children. We will be attending mass at 9am. Teacher's will be handing out ministries soon. All Year 1 will sing a thanksgiving song.

Year 4 Sacred Space

Year 4 Sacred Space planned for this Thursday 10th March will be postponed to 17th March.

Congratulation Sebastian

Congratulations to Sebastian in 1Green who was Baptised on the weekend with his sister Charlotte. We are so excited for you!

Cath Kyle
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

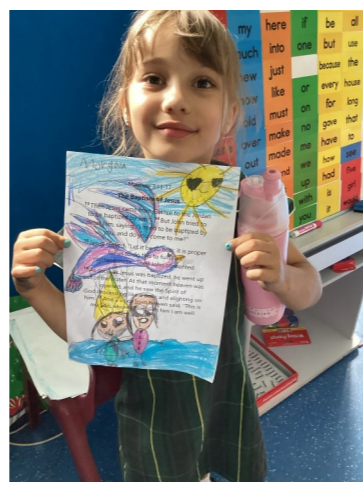
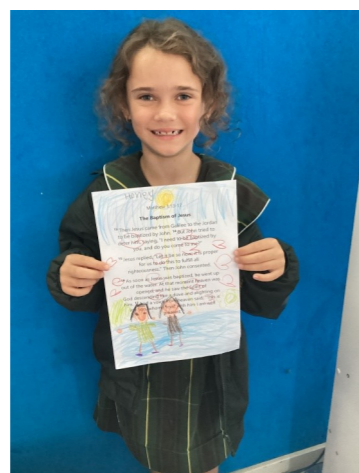
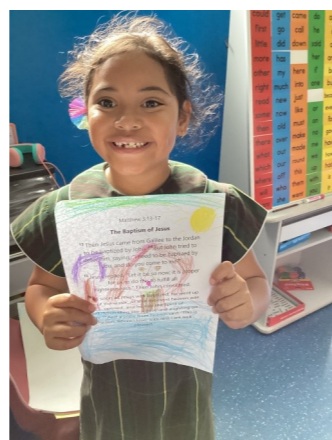
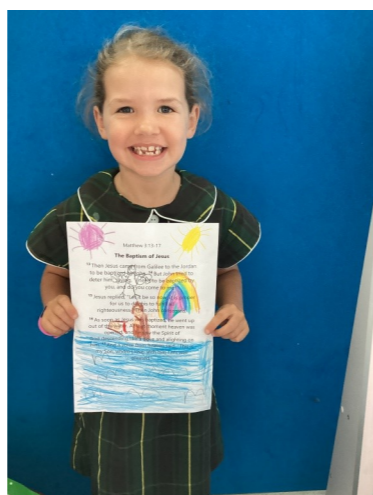
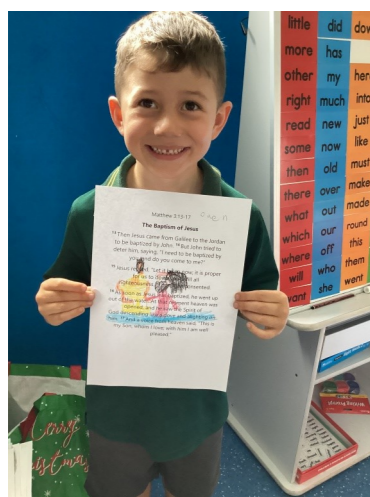
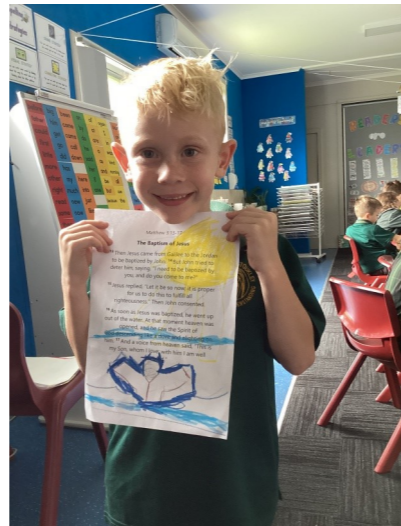
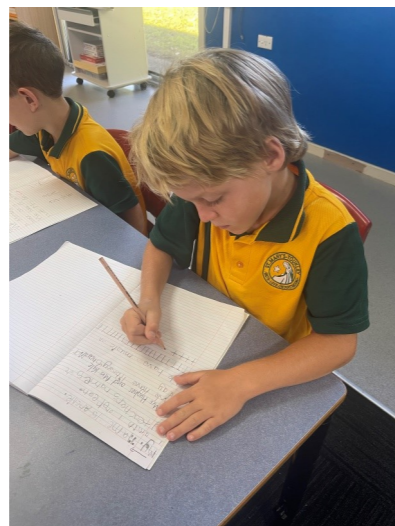
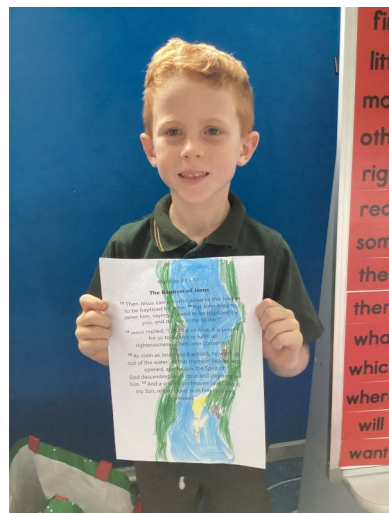
from our many and varied families which represent their own cultural background. If you would like to send in a favourite recipe please email it to me over the next 2 weeks and we will share it with the school community during Wellbeing Week. If you would like to include a photo of the dish or yourself, or any information about why this dish is special or if you have it at special celebrations that would be wonderful.

It's great to have parents/ carers back on-site and to also restart some of our in-school opportunities for families to gather. **Cuppa & Chat—Mon & Wed from 8.30am** in the Parent Resource Room, near the Pandora Rd gates. Come along, meet other parents/ carers, informal conversations and activities for preschoolers.

Storytime in the Library—Thursday 9am in the School Library. For toddlers and preschoolers to come along for storytime, craft and to borrow a book. Parents/ carers are welcome to join in.

Donna Falzon
Family Liaison Officer
donna.falzon@dbb.catholic.edu.au

A Spotlight on Year 1



Canteen News

Canteen is now open for recess and lunch snacks as well as lunch orders. Qkr! is still the preferred method for lunch orders. **Please remember to update your child's class for this year on their Qkr! profile.**

If sending money in with your child to buy a snack or iceblock over the counter, please have a chat to them about what they can purchase with the money you give them. Also please don't send in too much money, \$2 maximum is plenty, especially for the younger students.

If you are a canteen volunteer and are unable to fulfill your rostered day please contact the school office as early as you can.

Thank you
Donna and Lauren

Star Awards

Isabella D
Eli C
Hunter C
Sophie A
Parker L
Oliver C
Asha G
Adalita S
Noah C
Cruz C
Flynn R
Teyah H
Zoe S
Owen M
Ryan M
Eliette J
Rylee F
Joshua Y



Our annual Easter Raffle is back

Donations of Easter eggs, baskets and gift bags gratefully accepted from Monday 14th March.

Tickets on sale on the top playground in the morning and at recess beginning Monday 14th March.

Raffle drawn Week 11 with all monies donated to the Adopt-a-school Northern Rivers Flood Appeal.

Tickets are 50c each or 3 for \$1.00.



Thank you

A huge thanks to Carol Karam for giving up her time to share her Yoga expertise last Friday. Each Year 4 class participated in a great session to learn about poses, meditation and breathing.



Wellbeing Walk Monday March 21, 9am

Join us for a relaxing walk with other parents/ carers to Jenny Dixon Reserve for morning tea and mindfulness. Parents with prams and younger children welcome. Alternative plans will be in place in case of wet weather. If you are interested in joining our walk please RSVP to donna.falzon@dbb.catholic.edu.au



Seasons for Growth

Permission notes for Seasons for Growth need to be returned to school by Friday March 11. If you would like further information, or to discuss whether it would be suitable for your child to attend please contact me at school.
Donna Falzon



Storytime in the Library *is back* from
Thursday March 10 at 9am

Join us for
Storytime

An invitation to our families with toddlers and preschoolers.

Storytime runs for 30 minutes every Thursday, right after morning assembly. It is an opportunity for children to experience stories being read to them, participate in a craft activity with other children and borrow a library book. It is a great way for children to familiarise themselves with the library and become comfortable in the school environment.

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