



## Wellbeing and Harmony Week

### Upcoming Events

- *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 week, our school celebrates our diversity and continues to make the wellbeing of our students and staff a focus. Our Wellbeing Team have busily prepared a number of activities for our children to participate in. These will take place in classrooms and on the playground during lunch times. The week will end with Harmony Day this Friday where all children are encouraged to wear orange clothes and bring a gold coin donation for Project Compassion.

### Cross Country

Our Cross Country was held last Friday, and what a magnificent day it was! Our children had a wonderful time. Their have-a-go attitude, resilience and efforts were noticed by many. We particularly appreciate the help of our parents, Mrs Bain and our terrific Year 6 children. You were each significant in the success of the day. A special mention must also go to our local police, we are grateful for the time the officers put aside to help our children cross busy Budgewoi Road.

### Character Champion

This year, alongside the traditional themes that some teachers have in their classrooms (eg. Jungle, Under the Sea etc), our teachers have talked with their class to come up with a characteristic theme that their class would like to focus on throughout the year. This will be a characteristic the students of the class can strive to demonstrate each day. Examples of some of the themes chosen include "Kindness", "Persistence", "Friendship", "Respect", "Honesty" and "Gratitude". Each class's theme is displayed on the doors of our foyer. Twice a term, a child from each class will be recognised as their 'Character Champion'.

Today, for the first time, we recognise the Character Champions from each class: Evan C, Kelly B, Josie M, Raven W, Kai M, Ruby J, Sage C, Siao Si M, Kai R, Max A, Alex T, Flynn B, Zane B, Sonny I, Emeri B, Lillian D, Vanessa M, Jasmine C, Ma'Niyah J, Blake C and Summer M.

### Catholic Schools Week: I belong, You belong, We belong

Next week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. This is an important opportunity to celebrate our school community, the connection to our

parish and the faith, love, understanding, learning, friendships and fun that exist within our school. We invite you to attend our school next Tuesday 29th. Our Liturgy begins in the church at 2.15pm and will be followed at 2.45pm with Open Classrooms, a time for parents to visit your child's classroom. We hope to see you there.

### Playgroup

Playgroup will be held next Wednesday March 30th at 9.15am. It is a great opportunity for children who will be starting school in 2023 to come along, become familiar with the school and learn through play with other 4 year olds. It is also a great opportunity for parents to meet other families and talk to the school staff. We look forward to meeting you next Wednesday.

### Off to State Swimming

Yesterday our terrific team of swimmers headed to Polding. This is significant in itself as it is only the students who place in the top two of our diocesan carnival who attend. Congratulations to Edward C, Harry B, Byron H, Archie M, Archie W, Yenna W and Nikita R for your amazing effort yesterday, what an achievement. Special mention must go to Edward, Harry, Archie M and Byron who came an amazing 3rd place in their relay and secured their place in the upcoming State Championships. Wow! Please join me in congratulating all of our swimmers.

### A Rumour...

It has been quite strange recently. A number of children have spoken to me on the playground, mentioning a rumour going around that the class who raises the most money for Project Compassion will be able to throw water bombs on me on the last day of term. Although a number of children bring this to my attention each day, when I discussed this possibility with the students this week at morning assembly, they have assured me it is nothing more than a joke and that there is most definitely no truth to it. I guess I have no choice but to believe them. Parents, if you hear of anything, please let me know.

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

Finlay T  
Ellie A  
James W  
Sanisia W  
Darcy C  
Elizabeth L  
Natas B  
Oliver Y  
Harrison D  
Jacob M  
Reef C  
Theo S  
Kamryn M  
Samuel R  
Bonnie M  
Heidi W  
Talan C  
Kyden B  
Baylen M  
Siao Si M  
Lillian M  
Ashlee S  
Maci T  
Taj R  
Nate F  
Harrison L  
Lachlan B  
Henry H  
Ayla C  
Summer-Rose D  
lylah M  
Myles S  
Darcy M  
Euan B  
Chloe S  
Eden L-T  
Scarlet W  
Portia R  
Connor V-B  
Addie L  
Nova B

## From Our REC

### Prayer and Paint

It is not too late to join us for "Prayer and Paint," Parent Engagement session. 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. If you would like to attend please email [catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au), call the school office or sign up using the PIP teams link <https://signup.com/go/mpKZvNj>. We would love to see you on Monday morning.

### Year 1 Sunday Mass

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

### Year 1 Sacred Space

Year 1 will be sharing their learnings in Religious Education this Thursday. Our Sacred Space will begin after lunch at 2pm. Parents are welcome to join us on site for this.

### Catholic Schools Week - "I Belong, You Belong, We Belong"

Next week we will be celebrating our school and the role it plays in educating our students not only academically but spiritually

## From our Family Liaison Officer

It can sometimes be challenging for parents to know exactly how to approach confronting topics or situations with children. It could include things like death of a family member, family breakdown, serious illness, mental health struggles or dramatic changes to lifestyle because of financial difficulties. Naturally a parent's first instinct is to want to protect their children and even if we think we are doing a good job of quietly managing what is happening children are generally very perceptive and will pick up on that things aren't quite right or that the adults in their life may be struggling.

An article by psychologist Dr Karen Young has some great insights and suggestions for parents to help have those conversations. You can access it via the link ["What to say when kids ask hard questions, or when they know things aren't right"](#).

and emotionally. Each morning students will share what they value or like about our school. On Tuesday 29th of March at 2.15pm we will have a liturgy in the church. Parents are invited to this liturgy, we are very excited to have you join us for this. Following the liturgy or at 2.45pm we will invite parents into classrooms to have a look at the work students have been involved with this term.

### Wellbeing Week - Week 9

Don't forget to wear orange on Friday 25th March. Please bring in a gold coin to help raise money for Project Compassion

### Stations of the Cross - Good Friday - Friday 15th April 9am

This year we will be again re-enacting the Stations of the Cross. Sam Hanham, a parent of children in Kindergarten and Year 2 leads the liturgy with the help of a parishioner Di Healy. We will practise on three occasions during Weeks 10 and 11 and then on Wednesday 13th April at 9.45am. If you would like your child/ren to participate in this liturgy please email [catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:catherine.kyle@dbb.catholic.edu.au). There will be speaking and acting parts and this liturgy is open to students of all ages. Our parishioners love to come and watch the children participate in this very special liturgy.

Cath Kyle  
Religious Education Coordinator

A reminder that our next Playgroup for children looking to start in Kinder next year is on next Wednesday March 30 from 9.15am, followed by a school tour for parents and children. If you know of families that will have children starting school next year please let them know.

Parents and children have been enjoying the return of Storytime in the Library for toddlers and preschoolers on Thursday mornings. If you have little ones, please come along and join in.

Our Parent Resource Library is located in the Library foyer with some resources also in the Parent Resource room. If Parents/carers would like to have a look at what is available and borrow resources please let me know.

Donna Falzon  
Family Liaison Officer  
[donna.falzon@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:donna.falzon@dbb.catholic.edu.au)



## A Spotlight on Year 3



**OFF TO STATE SWIMMING!** A huge congratulations to our Junior Boys Relay team who are now off to the State Swimming Championships after placing third at the Polding Trials. Well done boys!



### 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.**

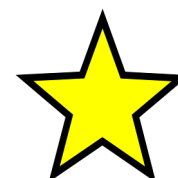
If sending money in with your child to buy a snack or iceblock over the counter, please have a chat to them about what they can purchase with the money you give them. Also please don't send in too much money, \$2 maximum is plenty, especially for the younger students.

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

Conor H  
Albie T  
Airlie C  
Amelia R  
Ondine R  
Charlize A  
Alekszander K  
Lillian A  
Archie G  
Jackson M  
Lachlan M  
Evalata M  
Luke P-C  
Phoebe-Rene F  
Sophie B



## From our PE Teacher

### Polding Swimming Championships – Homebush

Yesterday we had our largest squad competing at the Polding Trials. These are the best children from Catholic Schools in the Northern half of New South Wales swimming to qualify for NSW All Schools Championships in a couple of weeks.

Our boys Jnr relay team continued their strong efforts coming third and qualifying for NSW All Schools.

We congratulate these amazing boys – Harry B, Edward C, Archie M and Byron H. It is about 16 years since we have had a relay team through to State. Good Luck!!

We are also so proud to have our individual swimmers swim personal best times and gain results in the top 10 of Polding.

Nikita R BRS 4<sup>th</sup>, Archie W FREE, Archie M BRS, Yenna W FREE and Harry B FREE, BKS, FLY, IM  
What a strong amazing group of Swimmers St Mary's is proud of you all!

### St Mary's Cross Country – Jenny Dixon Reserve

Thank you children for your fabulous effort – I love how everyone at St Mary's gives it a go to the best of their ability. Thank you to all of our wonderful parents – your support of all of the runners was so positive. We also had a huge number of spectators who enjoyed all of the running talent on show.

Thank you St Mary's teachers, parent judges, parent helpers and year 6 - you all helped to set up, judge the races and run the carnival so well

### Sportsmanship Awards– Zali McF, Kyah R, Josi, Benny E, Dylan W and Liam E

#### Race Results

BOYS	6years	7years	8years	9years	10years	11years	12years
1 <sup>st</sup>	Natas B	Leo C	Max A	Flynn B	Dominic W	Koby D	Bailey N
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Harrison G	Archie N	Baylen M	Lachlan B	Andy B	Seth T	Anton W
3 <sup>rd</sup>	James W	Ollie B	Lennox K	Reece M	Archer G	Kingston K	Harry B
4 <sup>th</sup>	Oliver L	Kai M	Rawson B	Isaac B	Abel N	Ben G	Riley T
5 <sup>th</sup>	Leo C	Aiden B	Archie W	Lachlan M	Hunter H	Max W	Tiernan B
6 <sup>th</sup>	James D	Avery W	Isaac B	Taj R	Daniel B	Noah W	Tom B
7 <sup>th</sup>	Finlay T	Ollie C	Malaki B	Ashley L	Archie M	Sam N	Eddie A
8 <sup>th</sup>	Cooper	Jace B	Christian	Jonas C	Levi M	Phoenix W	Noah T
9 <sup>th</sup>	Kai D	Siaosi M	Van H	Archie H	Thomas M	Zac W	Luca K
10 <sup>th</sup>	Phoenix	William N	Roman M	Hayden T	Sonny I	Euan B	Alex D

GIRLS	6years	7years	8years	9years	10years	11years	12years
1 <sup>st</sup>	Charlotte A	Kohi B	Ruby B	Phoebe N	Addison W	Chloe S	Ellie B
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Zali R	Eva W	Amelia D	Emily A	Arlie M	Rose D	Halle B
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Isabella W	Isla Mc	Amena D	Teyah H	Lillian D	Tayla Mc	Zahra D
4 <sup>th</sup>	Molly W	Ivy T	Remi W	Ashlee S	Ayla B	Kirri Lee F	Summer M
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lexi B	Sophie A	Mia T	Jazz B	Nikita C	Tayla G	Penelope P
6 <sup>th</sup>	Briella F	Frankie B	Willow C	Lylah M	Elliette J	Havanna G	Portia R
7 <sup>th</sup>	Kalira W	Remi C	Sofie N	Piper E	Mia S	Willow F	Nikita R
8 <sup>th</sup>	Remi B	Hannah B	Ondine R	Sienna H	Rhani L	Milla A	Nova B
9 <sup>th</sup>	Sanisia W	Abigail H	Eadie M	Cochella O	Aila K	Ruby K	Chelsea B
10 <sup>th</sup>	Piper W	Ruby J	Finley G	Yenna W	Ayla C	Lara N	Chelsea F

The top 8 children from 8yrs – 12yrs will qualify for CCC Cross Country which will take place Thursday 5th May – week 2 Term 2.

It will take place at Hylton Moore Ovals, East Gosford. A compass notification will be out soon.

Liz Bain  
Sports Coordinator

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