



St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Vol 4.1.15

26 February 2015

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IMPORTANT DATES

March

Monday 2 March

Public Holiday

Lent



Vision Statement

A welcoming faith community
We value relationships
We pursue excellence in learning
We live the Gospel message of love

A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,

During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may rediscover the grace of a prayerful life. Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, and remind me of the grace of simplicity.

Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.

May this season be a grace filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.

Amen

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

We are fast approaching the middle of Term 1. Congratulations to students and staff on how settled they are into learning programs and class routines. This being a 9 week term, with three short weeks, we have decided to alter our Reporting Schedule where we send home student workbooks twice a term. This term, student workbooks will be sent home at the end of Week 8, Friday 27 March, with the requirement that these are returned on Monday 30 March.

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in the week commencing Monday 23 March. I thank teachers for planning the schedules for these interviews and collaborating to arrange consecutive times on the same dates for families with more than one child.

I wish all families a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend. Keep safe on your travels.

Sincerest Sympathy

Our sympathy to the Lang family on the death of Jemma's father, Gabrielle's grandfather, in the Christmas/January school holidays.

Sympathy also to Mrs Cathy Mountford on the death of her brother-in-law, husband of Mrs Julie Gibson, who has taught Science lessons and taught as a relief teacher at St Mary's in the past few years.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace.

Amen



STUDENT AWARDS

YEAR 1	Frances Best	Tex Murphy	Taj Allan	Keira Pitts
YEAR 2	Taneisha Scott	Molly Turner		
YEAR 3	Natalia Dillon	Harry Jones	Maddison Cream	
YEAR 4	Jai Cahill			
YEAR 5	Mary Hynes	Jake Michell		
YEAR 6	Chelsea Orsi	Samuel Kirke		

SCHOOL NEWS

SPELLING MASTERY

This year we are using Spelling Mastery as our spelling program with Years 3—6. This program blends phonemic (phonics), whole word and morphemic (bases, prefixes, suffixes) approaches according to students' skill levels. The Phonemic approach, the sound-symbol approach, teaches students predictable spellings for different sounds. The whole-word approach helps students memorise spellings of high-frequency irregularly spelled words e.g. Was, who, could. The morphemic approach teaches more advanced spellers to spell meaningful units of words and combine them to form multisyllabic words, e.g. hope-less-ly.

Teachers in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 run their Spelling Mastery lessons simultaneously, allowing two small extra spelling groups to run in the Library, with Mrs Illman and in the hall with Ms Brown.

Each student has their own workbook with the lesson structured and teacher directed and moving at a rapid pace. Lessons are held each Monday—Thursday morning and last about 20 minutes. After every five lessons, there is a spelling test. Students are not told in advance which words will appear on tests. Rather, tests are cumulative; a range of words from previous lessons are included on tests. Some particularly useful and difficult words are included on more than one test. Research shows us that when students know in advance the exact words on a test, they can memorize those exact words, hold them in short term memory and may then promptly forget them following the test. Our aim in teaching spelling is not simply to achieve full marks in the spelling test but, rather, to retain spelling knowledge and skills in order to spell accurately in written work. Spelling Mastery promotes the development of a "spelling conscience" in students. Review is a fundamental part of every Spelling Mastery lesson. Every skill is introduced, reviewed, expanded, assessed and then reviewed cumulatively. Students in Years 3—6 will take home their Spelling Mastery workbooks in Week 8.

WHY DO TEACHERS USE (WAIT TIME) AFTER ASKING A QUESTION

When teachers ask a question of the whole class they don't preface it with a student's name. The teacher asks a question and waits 3 –5 seconds, giving students time to consider and understand the question and create an appropriate response. Each student has to think of a response (engage in the learning) because nobody knows who will be called on to respond; the teacher then picks a popstick to call upon a student. Wait time is particularly powerful for increasing the probability of extended answers and increased quality of thinking processes. This, in turn, adds to the quality of student learning.

CANTEEN—FROZEN BERRIES



With recent media reports of Australians contracting Hepatitis A as a result of eating frozen berries, we assure our parents and families that frozen berry products are not being used in our school canteen.

SOCCER GOALS

Thanks to P & F funding, new soccer goals have been purchased and these will be installed over the coming week.



PRE PRIMARY MOTHER'S DAY MORNING TEA HELP PLEASE



Pre Primary are making some delicious home made goods for the upcoming Mother's Day Morning Tea and are URGENTLY requesting donations of any GLASS JARS or GLASS SAUCE BOTTLES with lids. The jars/bottles will be put to good use and would be of great help to our Pre Primary Mums . Any size would be greatly appreciated. They can be brought into the Front Office who will pass them on to us. Thank you!

WELCOME MORNING TEA

On Friday 20th February our new families attended the annual Welcome Morning Tea. A huge thank you to our Kindy representatives Kelly and Liz for coordinating the morning. Our new families had a lovely morning meeting P&F reps, touring the “big” school, a meet and greet with our Canteen Manager Natalie, followed by an amazing morning tea provided by the Kindy parent group.

We hope that all the families that attended the morning enjoyed themselves and we look forward to seeing you at our School Community events in the future.

P&F Executive

FOOTY TIPPING

There are still some unclaimed prizes from our 2014 Footy tipping in the front office. If they belong to you – please collect within 2 weeks otherwise we will assume you are kindly donating them back to the P&F as a donation!

CANTEEN SUPREME NEWS

It is fantastic to see so many of our students enjoying the new fruit options on the recess menu. The frozen grapes and the frozen watermelon cups were selling at a great rate last Friday. Let’s see if we can keep it up. I’m also very happy to twirl apples or pears for any of our students at no cost. This is very helpful to our younger students who may be a little tooth challenged at the moment.

Slight change to the Ga Ga combo – it will now have a French Onion Dip instead of a Corn Dip.

The spectacular and gorgeous Kate Turner, Janelle O’Reilly and Brooke Brand are our Canteen helpers for this Friday 27th February and as next Monday is a Public Holiday the Canteen will only be open on Friday next week.

Enjoy the long weekend.

Natalie

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The 2015 school year is well underway so I would like to ask (once again) for volunteers to help with some of our in-school programs.

We have our Toe-by-Toe program running every morning from about 8:45 until 9:00, our Reading program during AR time from 1:30 to 2:00, Monday to Thursdays and volunteers working within selected classes for Mathematics and English.

Our volunteer program is very successful in assisting students but relies on the generosity of families in our school and parish. If you have a day when you could give 1/2 hour of your time to help the students in our school, it would be greatly appreciated. Please leave your name and preferred time with myself or the office.

Thank you to those who have already given their names and started to work.

Jenny Noack

BOOK CLUB

Issue 1 orders have been sent to Scholastic and should be back within the next week.

UNIFORM NOTES

With only 5 weeks left of Term 1, I now have to place orders for winter uniforms with our suppliers. Please take the time to check winter uniforms for fit and place orders as soon as possible at the uniform shop or they can be left at the office. Kindy, Pre Primary and Year 1 can call at the Uniform Shop any Wednesday morning between 8.30 and 9.30am to try on and place orders.

HPE News

Swimming Carnival:

Nomination forms for Yr. 4 – 6 have to be returned by Tuesday 3rd March. A reminder that the St Mary’s Swimming Carnival is on Thursday 12th March from 12.30pm to 2.30pm. Students have/will be given a swimming cap that represents their faction colour. Parents who have indicated that they will take their child home directly after the carnival are asked to touch base with the class teacher before departing.

The Interschool Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday 19th March from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Students will be selected based upon performance. Freestyle and Breaststroke will have 3 divisions this year, whilst Backstroke and Butterfly will have 2.

LENT IN ACTION

Lent is a time to pray as an individual, as a family and as a faith community. Set aside time daily for your own personal prayer time. Pray as a family at meals. Bless one another as you leave your home in the morning and before you go to bed at night. One of the simplest and most natural gestures is to trace a cross on your loved one's forehead. It speaks volumes to a young child when a parent gives him or her this sign of love and prayer.

"A day without prayer is like a sky without the sun, a garden without flowers."

Blessed Pope John XXIII



National Ride2School Day

National Ride2School Day will take place on Friday 13th March. One of the aims of National Ride2School day is to celebrate active travel. Mrs A and I will be at the Bird Park, Big Swamp at 8.00am, where parents and students can join us as we ride to school. We will use the cycle ways and the lollipop person to get to school. Please use parent discretion if your child is not a confident cyclist. To give me an idea of numbers please complete the form below and place it in the class office basket.

I will be a National Ride2School student.

Student Name: _____

I will be a National Ride2School parent.

Parent Name: _____

Tino Alberti
HPE Teacher.



ST MARY'S LENTEN PROGRAMME

All are invited to attend this worthwhile Lenten preparation that is held in the chapel at 9.30am on Tuesday mornings.

Come along and share in reflection, prayer and discussion. See Ms Brown for further details.

WHERE: Chapel
WHEN : Tuesday 3 Mar
Tuesday 10 Mar
Tuesday 17 Mar
Tuesday 24 Mar
Tuesday 31 Mar
AT: 9.30AM



Year One Fundraiser



The Year One class are asking for donations for the annual Easter Raffle. Donations of ANYTHING Easter can be placed in the boxes provided in each class. We thank you in advance for your kind contributions. This week raffle tickets will be sent home for the Easter raffle, A booklet of 10 raffle tickets will be allocated to each family and more are available at the front office if required. We ask that whatever you don't sell kindly be returned with the sold tickets and money by the 20th March ready for the big raffle draw on the 1st April.

COMMUNITY NEWS

AFTER SCHOOL SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Enrolment forms are available in the Parish Office. Please enroll your child as early as possible, as the deadline will be the 23rd of April 2015. Children may only receive one sacrament per year. Please also remember that we need a copy of your child's baptism certificate, along with those of any other sacraments received.

This year we would like to invite all children from 6 years and older to participate in a special Lenten Programme for children on the 19th and 26th of March 2015 at 4pm in preparation for Easter.

It is wonderful opportunity for these children to gain a greater insight into the meaning of Easter.

Please do not forgo this opportunity.

Children 6 years of age and older who have not been baptized are required to register for baptismal instructions. Please register as soon as possible. The first baptism instructions will take place from Thursdays from the 30th of April to the 21st of May 2015. Please, contact the parish office for further details (9721 2141).



Club sign on day
March 7th at 9am - 12noon

Bunbury Hockey Stadium

Junior contact

Clare Woolsey cwoolsey2@bigpond.com 0417909164
Shelley Madaffari madaffari@westnet.com.au 0409884249

Senior's contact

Men's Vice President: Hayden Scott hadoscott1985@hotmail.com 0400725881
Women's Vice President: Chris Devereux gumpboy13@hotmail.com 00000000400106319

TSHC senior coach Shane Jamieson

Junior development training session

10am to 12 noon



BUNBURY JUNIOR BADMINTON

HAVE A TRY & REGISTRATION EVENINGS

Ages 7 – 17, Primary & Secondary Groups
Racquets Provided

WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH 6 – 7 PM

WEDNESDAY, 25TH MARCH 6 – 7 PM

**BADMINTON CENTRE, ROTARY DRIVE
NEXT TO SOUTH WEST SPORTS CENTRE
CONTACT: DONNA 0447 958 322**