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30 April 2015

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Address: Box 247 Bunbury 6230

Telephone: 9726 7500

Fax: 9791 3219

Email: admin@stmarysbnby.wa.edu.au

Newsletter items: evans.aurelia@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Web Page: www.stmarysbnby.wa.edu.au



IMPORTANT DATES

May

- 1 May Uniform Shop open
CatholicCare free dress for a gold coin donation
- 2 May Bunbury Catholic College Academic Scholarship Examination
- 3 May Eucharist Commitment Mass
- 4 May Year 6 Camp
- 6 May Mothers' Day Mass 9am
Mothers' Day Morning Tea
NO CANTEEN
- 8 May Year 6 return from camp
Return of Parent Climate Surveys

Vision Statement

A welcoming faith
community

We value
relationships

We pursue excellence
in learning

We live the Gospel
message of love

A Good Foundation

Jesus told stories with lessons, called parables, to give his followers examples of how they should live their lives. One story was about two different houses. The first house was built on rock. The other house was built on sand. The house that was built well stood up against all kinds of weather. The other house was swept away with the first heavy rain.

Dear God, help me to build a strong foundation in life. Teach me to make good plans and to think things through before I act. Teach me also to be careful in the ways I treat people. Each day I pray I will follow your Golden Rule: Do to others the way you would have others do to you. Amen.



Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Thank you to the students from Pre Primary to Year 6 who represented St Mary's School at the ANZAC ceremonies last weekend. Thank you to Mrs Paini and Mrs Brown who coordinated these students and to Mr Alberti and the Year 6 class who coordinated the school ANZAC service last week. Families who attended Mass at the Cathedral at the weekend would have seen displays of ANZAC themed artwork from students in the Bunbury diocese on display, with classes from St Mary's represented in these displays.

On Tuesday evening, we held our parent/student Confirmation evening. Thank you to parents and students who attended, with some students also having their sponsor attend. Year 6 students will celebrate their Confirmation in 3 weeks time on Sunday 24 May, Pentecost Sunday. I ask all in our school community to pray for our Year 6 students and their families in these final weeks of preparation. Thank you to Mr Alberti who facilitated Tuesday evening's meeting and who is preparing the students, with support from parents, sponsors and families, for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

On Wednesday next, we will celebrate the gift of motherhood at our Mothers' Day Mass at 9am in the chapel. Following Mass, the P & F will host St Mary's Annual Mothers' Day Morning Tea. Thanks to the planning and work of Pre Primary parents, we look forward to an enjoyable morning together. May you feel a sense of achievement and satisfaction in what you have done together as a parent group.

Thank you to Tammy Patterson and Sandra Smith for your leadership, coordination and work. The strengthening of friendships and the sense of pride in all that your parent group has achieved will deem the Morning Tea a great success.

Having returned from leave this week, I thank Mrs Jo Paini for her leadership of our school while I was away. I wish all students and families a successful term and I encourage all to work hard and do their very best work at all times. Students from Pre Primary to Year 6 will receive Semester 1 formal reports at the end of term, this being the first year of formal reporting for Pre Primary students.

Maureen Tully

Principal

STUDENT AWARDS

YEAR 1	Jacob Coulson	Tex Murphy	
YEAR 2	Pypah Atkinson	Bel Dabic	
YEAR 3	Nick O'Brien	Kade Lubcke	
YEAR 4	Aidan Hall	Kace Brand	Anthony Cooper
YEAR 5	Max Guerin	Jarrad Italiano	
YEAR 6	Ella Bele	Cassandra Babasa	
A.R.	50% Oscar Kitchen—Brown		

SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 6 CAMP

Year 6 students, accompanied by Tino Alberti, Jo Paini, Sean Kennedy and Sharon Clark, head off on Monday morning for an outdoor adventure camp at Nanga Bush Camp. They return on Friday afternoon. We wish them a happy, enjoyable and safe adventure where they meet the challenges presented and strengthen the friendships they have developed with each other over the past 7+ years. All relevant details have been forwarded home with the students.

STAFFING MATTERS

Mr Darren Beauglehole continues on annual leave until Monday 11 May and we welcome Mr Ken Moon on staff while Darren is away. Mrs Kerry Bonser returns from leave next Monday 4 May. We welcomed back a familiar face, Mrs Marg Ashworth, to carry out Kerry's duties.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be open tomorrow morning, 1 May at 8.30am. From Monday 4 May, all students are required to wear full winter uniform. A copy of the uniform code is available on the school website and is also included in the student diary.

BOARD MEETING

The Board Meeting planned for next week has been rescheduled for Tuesday 12 May at 5.45pm.

P & F MEETING

The P & F Meeting planned for next week has been rescheduled for Tuesday 12 May at 7pm.

STUDENT AWARDS

Thank you to all who donated cash and gold to help with care and rehabilitation for Chloe who is fighting "Stevens-Johnson Syndrome". \$170 in cash was raised along with gold donations. All donations have been forwarded to the fundraising coordinators.

Helen Brown & Jo Paini

FOOTY TIPPING

We had a tie for the round 4 footy tipping with both 'RILES' and 'JAXON' correctly tipping 7 winners with an identical margin of 32 points. The weekly winners can collect their prize (\$12.50 each) from the school office. The overall leaders of the competition are 'RILES' with 26 correct and a superior points margin over 'Bests on Ground.' Good luck to everyone with their tips for round 5.

MOTHERS' DAY MORNING TEA



ONE WEEK TO GO!!!

For those ladies who have purchased a ticket to this event, please come along and enjoy a delicious assortment of sweet treats and savoury food as we celebrate Mothers' Day (a few tickets are still available if anyone would like to buy one, contact Sandra Smith 0409 685550). Don't forget to bring along your entry ticket on the day so you can go into the draw to win a fantastic door prize. There are also lots of other opportunities to win great prizes from our raffles and games starting from \$1 to The Chocolate Wheel or perhaps you would like to bid in our Auction? *****bring lots of gold coins***** If you would still like a ticket in our main raffle for your chance to win a TM5 Thermomix, don't miss out, contact Laura Maratea 0403 303211. All proceeds from the Mothers' Day Morning Tea will go to our P&F and will help towards resurfacing our school basketball courts. We are looking forward to enjoying a lovely morning with you all.
From all the PP mums

YOUNIQUE

Rowena Santos will be setting up a table with Younique products during the Mothers' Day Morning Tea. Younique is a company that manufactures top notch natural based cosmetics and skincare and houses a best selling mascara on the market today - the 3D Fibre Lash Mascara. **15%** of the sales on the day will go towards the refurbishment of the school basketball court.



SCIENCE ROOM UPGRADE

New sinks with stainless steel bench tops were installed in the Science Room during the Easter holidays. Mrs Noack and the students have been putting these to good use during Science lessons over the past couple of weeks. Years 4, 5 and 6 will also use this area for Art lessons on Friday. You are welcome to drop by the Science Room in the morning before school to see how this room has been transformed from last year's Year 7 classroom.



MUM'S NOT HELPING

Please read the attached newspaper article from Singapore Sunday Times that I came across on my recent travels. It provides food for thought and discussion for us as a school staff and for parents (to discuss with each other as a parent group and as a family). It is our goal as a school and as parents to make ourselves redundant i.e. our children develop increasing independence as they grow.

HPE NEWS

Protective Behaviours

A parent information session will be held on Tuesday 12th May at 6.00pm in the School Hall on Protective behaviours. All Year 3 parents, and interested parents from other grades, are invited to attend. There will be a lesson taught to Year 3 students on Protective Behaviours. Mrs Tina Wallis from the Milligan Community Learning and Resource Centre will conduct the program. Please RSVP to Mrs Coulson's email address if you are attending so we can prepare resources, coulson.melissa@cathednet.wa.edu.au. Thank you.

CANTEEN SUPREME NEWS

Attached to today's newsletter is the new and improved Term 2 roster. We have had lots and lots of changes to the first edition so please check this one carefully and let me know if you can't make your chosen date.



Due to the Mother's Day Morning Tea there will be NO CANTEEN on Wednesday 6th May. Canteen will continue as usual on Friday 8th May.

2 HELPERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED ON FRIDAY 1 MAY (TOMORROW)

CASUALS FOR CATHOLIC CARE

Established by the Diocese of Bunbury, CatholicCare raises funds to assist people with social needs in our community. This year St Mary's will hold our "Casuals for CatholicCare" day on Friday 1st May. We encourage the students to wear casual clothes on this day and bring a gold coin donation.

YEAR 4 EUCHARIST

Our Year 4 students will make their First Eucharist later this term on 28th June. Next Sunday morning, 3rd May, we will celebrate the Eucharist Commitment Mass at 10am. All members of our school community are invited to attend this Mass.

SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

St Mary's, in conjunction with Catholic Education Office WA are conducting School Climate Surveys— the survey period will run over 2 weeks, concluding on 8 May. The data collected in the survey will benefit everyone within the school by providing valuable information about the ways in which our school can be improved. The survey takes about 30 minutes to complete. All staff, 60 randomly selected parents, 60 year 5 and 6 students and all School Board members are invited to complete the survey. While participation is voluntary, we strongly encourage all to participate. The success of this important project is dependent on parents, staff, student and School Board involvement. The survey should be returned in the sealed envelope to the school. All answers will go anonymously into a database managed by consultants, Insight SRC. No participant will be identified in the answers provided. Feedback will be provided to the school based on the collective answers of all participants. St Mary's conducted this survey in 2013 and the feedback was used to set school improvement goals. Parents randomly selected to participate received a survey envelope on Tuesday. We handed out 60 surveys to parents and are hoping to have 60 returned. Thank you to parents for your support.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS INDUCTION

St Mary's hosted a New Board Members' Induction on Wednesday evening with 27 School Board Members from Catholic Schools in the Greater Bunbury area attend. The induction meeting was facilitated by Mrs Judy Hearn, CEO Bunbury School Improvement Advisor. Five St Mary's School Board members attended the induction

ANZAC DAY

Thank you to those students and parents who participated in the ANZAC Day march on April 25. Your support was greatly appreciated.





Junior Primary Creative Play Tubs



We are seeking donations of old dress ups, sand toys, pots and pans, plastic cups, jugs, kettles, saucers and cooking utensils, etc. These items will go into tubs that our junior primary children can use for creative play during recess and lunch times. Donations can be given to Mrs Torrisi or put in the labeled tubs in the art room. Thank you



South West Refuge Inc

13th April 2015

St Mary's Catholic Primary School
31 Mary Street
Bunbury WA 6230

Dear Staff and Students,

On behalf of the Board, staff, and clients of South West Refuge I write to thank you for your recent donation of Easter eggs.

Your support helps us to deliver on our mission to provide excellent, safe, supported accommodation for women and children escaping domestic/family violence in the South West region. Your donation has made a real difference and contributed to our clients' well-being. We thank you most sincerely once again.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink.

Gaynor Topliss
Acting CEO

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Canteen Roster

Term 2 2015

Wednesday 22nd April		Friday 24th April	
1			
Wednesday 29th April	Catherine Dorant	Friday 1st May	Brooke Brand
2			Catherine Dorant
Wednesday 6th May	Mother's Day	Friday 8th May	Janelle O'Reilly
3	Morning Tea		Michelle Patane-Dillon
			Belinda Males
Wednesday 13th May	Jaci Brasher	Friday 15th May	Janelle Norrish
4	Susan Bele		Rikki Smith
			Susan Mainstone
Wednesday 20th May	Clare Kirke	Friday 22nd May	Pauline Harling
5			Jodie-Anne Scott
			Jo Spinelli
Wednesday 27th May	Lana Ivey	Friday 29th May	Medrica Di Lallo
6			Belinda Males
			Sharon Clark
Wednesday 3rd June	Beverly Barry	Friday 5th June	Brenda Hall
7			Mel Sarre
			Kate Turner
Wednesday 10th June	Peta-Marie Lord	Friday 12th June	Melissa Coulson
8			Laura Maratea
			Suzie Liaros
Wednesday 17th June	Jaci Brasher	Friday 19th June	Carmela Spinelli
9			Michelle Patane-Dillon
			Jo Spinelli
Wednesday 24th June	Carol Kennedy	Friday 26th June	Susan Mainstone
10	Kate Wright		Sonja Cahill
			Janelle O'Reilly
Wednesday 1st July	Beverly Barry	Friday 3rd July	Siobhan De Coppi
11	Kate Turner		Sharon Clark
			Jodie-Anne Scott

Mum's not helping

Seriously Kidding – Tee Hun Ching

An hour after my son left for school recently, I spotted something that made my heart sink. He had left his Art bag at home. His class was starting a leaf printing project for Art that day and the teacher had issued a long list of materials they were to bring. We had spent the previous afternoon gathering the items, including an array of leaves.

But there the neatly packed bag sat, abandoned by its forgetful owner, its purpose unfulfilled.

More importantly, it also contained some props for an English storytelling assignment on which my son was to be graded that day.

My first instinct was to try recalling his timetable to see if I could deliver the bag to him in time for those lessons.

But what sprang to mind next was a line in an orientation handout that parents were given when our boys entered Primary 1 last year: if they forgot any items that were required for the day, we were “strongly discouraged” from acting as couriers.

This, the school explained, was to instil a sense of responsibility in the kids.

“I like your style,” I remember thinking then, as I read other pointers in the handout that advised against mollycoddling our boys so they can learn from their mistakes and fight their own battles.

Yet when it came to the test, I was still all set to fly to my son's aid.

The bag contained items that were needed for nearly half of his school day and I imagined him being buffeted all morning by waves of panic.

Eventually, I set the bag down.

Too bad, I thought. He turns eight this year and will have to pay more heed, while it is time I start to let go.

It's just Primary 2 Art and English. I should be thankful that our first major lesson together is one that will leave an impression and not indelible scars.

As American parenting expert and author Amy McCready puts it: “A popular expression in parenting education circles is; ‘A child who always forgets has a parent who always remembers.’

“If we rescue kids from their repeated forgetfulness, we rob them of the opportunity to take personal responsibility and learn from their missteps. Who will be there to rescue them in college or at their first job?”

Still, a low grade anxiety gnawed at me the rest of that morning. I half expected my son to ring me pleading for help and I wondered if I would cave in if he did.

I never found out, for the call never came.

When I went to pick him up a few hours later, I was surprised to see him running towards me with a half-smile on his face.

“I forgot my Art bag,” he chirped.

“I know,” I replied, wondering if I should be pleased that he seemed to have weathered the mini crisis well or bothered that he appeared indifferent towards his own culpability.

“Were you scared?” I wanted to know.

A pause. “A bit. I thought Madam Y would scold me.”

She didn't, but neither did she allow his classmates to share their art materials with him.

“She said we are responsible for bringing our own things,” he reported.

I nodded approvingly. I like her style.

He would have to play catch up at the next lesson when his friends move on to another stage in the art project.

The good news was, the English storytelling assignment had been pushed to the next day so his props were not missed.

Touted as the antithesis of helicopter parenting, “no rescue policy” prescribes holding off assistance in cases of repeated forgetfulness or laziness, instead of hovering and dropping aid supplies constantly. The aim is to teach accountability.

Well and good. But I have to tell you, sitting back and not lifting a finger is a lot harder than you might think.

It takes nerves of steel to withhold help when seeing (or just imagining) your child struggle. This probably explains why many parents swoop down at the slightest hint of trouble or distress that besets their kids.

My son is no stranger to being punished for misdeeds born of sheer carelessness.

He has had to write lines, give up TV or make do with less pocket money for repeated offences such as misplacing or forgetting various school essentials.

After losing/breaking three water bottles in a year, he is now stuck with an old, “uncool” one that belonged to his dad while he saves up for a new one.

The Art bag episode was the first time I had punished him by simply doing nothing.

That night, I found a sticky note he'd left on the dining table before going to bed.

“Bring props for storytelling,” he'd scrawled.

Pleased, I told him the next day that I would have no qualms taking this “no rescue” route again since it seems to be working.

My resolve was tested again just a week later.

This time, he left a folder containing his Chinese spelling list in school and the class was due to be tested the next day.

“Don't expect me to ask your friends' mums for help,” I told him, after fighting the impulse to text my mummy buddies asking for a picture of the list of words.

He was equally calm.

“It's okay. I will revise it in school tomorrow.”

That night, he stuck another reminder for himself: “Bring back Chinese folder!!”

I don't know how many sticky notes he's going to need in the years ahead, but I have to say, I'm beginning to like his style.