Dear Parents

I hope all the families at St Mary’s have had a wonderful holiday and that the Easter Bunny was kind to you all. We have certainly come back to some cold weather this week. The children have a three week period of time to move from the summer uniform to the winter uniform. This has certainly been a winter school uniform week.

ANZAC Day
By now all families would have received information about how the children can participate in the Anzac Day services held in various communities around the shire. The school has purchase wreaths for the three main venues and we encourage families to support this important day in the life of our country. There will be special Masses said this weekend in the parish to commemorate Anzac Day.

Important Dates
This week we shall publish in hard copy a list of the important community events that will be happening this term. We have been asked for a paper copy suitable to go on the fridge door.

Congratulations
Today we celebrated a milestone in the career of Mrs Marg Croese. This year marks 40 year since Marg began teaching at St Mary’s. The event was celebrated with a visit and presentation from the Director Mrs Nadjecki. It was great to welcome Fr John, Fr Dominic, Fr Greg and Fr Emil to the school as well as members from her immediate family. I realise that Marg is a much loved member of staff who has touched so many young lives over her career. Well done Marg.

Industrial Action
Please be advised that following a staff meeting held this morning, that St Mary’s will be open for normal business on Tuesday 27th April.

Playgroup Begins
On Monday after assembly we are trialling a St Mary’s playgroup. The children and parents can meet in the hall after assembly and have some fun times together. Mrs Christine Lowe (an early childhood trained teacher) has volunteered her assistance to lead the sessions. The sessions should last for about an hour.

Breakfast Club
We are holding Breakfast Club 3 times each week (Tues, Wed, and Thurs) in the hall. The numbers are increasing and this is wonderful. Could I remind families that a gold coin donation towards the cost of breakfast would be appreciated. As numbers increase so do our costs. Thanks for your understanding.

NAPLAN
Boys and girls in years 3 and 5 this week received information about this important national testing. Dates for the tests are Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May. Should parents wish to withdraw their children from the tests please contact the front office to complete the appropriate form.

Health Alert
At St Mary’s school we’ve had a report of whooping cough. In most cases this would be covered by infant vaccination, however it is important to be aware when there are cases reported in the community.

Best wishes
Mick Lowe
Principal

Q. What did one eye say to the other?
A. Between you and me something smells

Birthdays
Happy birthday to the following students:
Chloe S
Charlotte S

Weekend Masses
Moruya: Vigil Mass – Saturday 6pm
Tuross: Sunday 8am
Moruya: Sunday 10am

Friday 24 April
9.15am Whole School Mass

Saturday 25 April
Anzac Day

Monday 27 April
Awards Assembly
Playgroup, 9.30am

Wednesday 29 April
Dinner for Aboriginal students and their families @ The Soldiers Club
Religion News

Remembering the ANZACS
This Sunday we will come together as a school/parish community to remember and honour all the men and women who have fought and died in the war. We thank the families who are able to attend this Mass on Sunday at 10am to pay tribute to the ANZACs and participate in the readings Prayers of the Faithful and other parts of the Mass. This Sunday is also Good Shepherd Sunday and the readings are very true to the ANZAC spirit... “a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep”.

Opening School Mass
We will celebrate the beginning of a new term tomorrow morning in the PAC. We are unable to use the Church at the moment as the walls on one side of the Church are being rendered. We thank Father Dominic for celebrating this Mass with us and the St Mary’s Staff for participating in the readings of the day and to the Year 6 students for the Prayers of the Faithful.

Dates for Term 2
Week 2: Year 6 Mass at 9.15am next Friday 1 May.
Week 3: Year 5 Class Mass Thursday 7 May @ 9.15am.
Year 1 Mother’s Day Focus Assembly on Friday 8 May at 9am in the PAC.
Week 4: Year 4 Class Mass Thursday 14 May @ 9.15am.
Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day @ CC Friday 15 May 9am-3pm.
Week 5: Year 3D Focus Assembly for Reconciliation Week Friday 22 May @ 9am in PAC.
School/Parish Mass Sunday 24 May @ 10am Pentecost Sunday, Mass for those students making their Confirmation: students to ask prayers from Parishioners.
Week 6: Year 2 and Year 3 Class Mass Thursday 28 May @ 9.15am.
Friday May 29 set up hall @ CC for Confirmation.
Confirmation Mass @ Carroll College @ 5pm Sunday 31 May.
Week 7: Grandparent’s Day Whole School Mass @ 9.15 Friday 5 June.
Week 8: Kinder and Year 1 Mass Friday 12 June @ 9.15am.
Week 9: Year 5 Focus Assembly Friday 19 June @ in PAC.
Week 10 Whole School Mass on Friday 26 June @ 9.15am.

Courage under Fire
The story of Simpson and his Donkey is one of the great legends of Gallipoli. Simpson was a stretcher bearer who was able to obtain a donkey to assist him in rescuing wounded soldiers from the battlefield. He would make dashes into no mans land and saved up to 300 soldiers over a period of a few weeks before being shot himself. Simpson’s reckless and selfless courage has made him one of the most revered figures in Anzac history. Whilst we are unlikely to face the same conditions, there are occasions when we may need to make decisions that will require courage. To defend the disadvantaged, stand up for an important principle or do the right thing when everyone around you disagrees takes a different type of courage, but it’s still important. On Anzac Day Australians traditionally repeat the ode:

They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them...
Lest we forget.

We are grateful for the sacrifice made by those Anzacs who have died or been injured in battle. Our thoughts are also with the men and women currently serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, Egypt, Sudan and the Middle East. May God bless you.

Our Prayers
We continue to pray for those in our school community who are sick:
Lisa Beauchamp, Jacqui Heffernan, Bob McFarlane (grandfather of Lily Yr 6), Jack Hewison’s grandmother and all those who need our prayers.

Have a safe and happy weekend,
Marg Croese
Congratulations Mrs Croese!

40 years in education

Today we hosted a special assembly to acknowledge Mrs Croese’s contribution to 40 years in Education. Mrs Croese was congratulated for her contribution and service to St Mary’s and Catholic Education by the Director of our Archdiocese, Mrs Moira Nadjecki and was presented with a special gift and plaque.

Mr Harnett spoke on behalf of the teachers at St Mary’s with a very heartfelt and moving speech about working with Mrs C and how she always puts the children first and goes above and beyond for everyone. We then watched a slide show of pictures that encapsulate all the things Mrs C loves; school, music, her faith and her family. Fr John then offered a special blessing for Mrs Croese and gave her a beautiful bunch of flowers. Mrs Croese was very excited to see her family, grandchildren, Fr Emil and Fr Greg were present.
Anzac Day
Saturday 25 April

All children are invited to attend and take part in ANZAC Commemoration Services and marches in our surrounding areas. All students wishing to participate will need to be in full school winter uniform. We would love to see as many children as possible representing our school at any of the following services:

Tuross Dawn Service
Apologies, there was a misprint in the note that went home yesterday about Anzac Day. The Tuross Dawn Service commences at 5.45am on Saturday 25 April. If your child is representing St Mary’s at the Tuross service, please meet Mrs Afflick at 5.40am at the beginning of the path to the Memorial.

Tomakin Dawn Service
Meet Mr Jeff Prow and Mr Tony Ward at 6:45am at the Tomakin Store.

Moruya Commemorative March and Service
Meet Mrs Niddrie and Mr Harnett.
For those students representing St Mary’s in the Commemorative March, you will need to assemble in the car park at the rear of the Adelaide Hotel at 10:30am. Parents can collect their children upon conclusion of the service at 12:20pm outside the RSL Hall.

Catrina Niddrie
Assistant Principal

Uniform sub-committee meeting
If any parents are interested in being part of the Uniform Subcommittee, please come along to a meeting on Tuesday 28 April at 2:10pm. The meeting will be held upstairs in the Board room in the Convent building.
Many thanks,
Kelly Cairney and Catrina Niddrie

Maths problem of the week!!!

Liz has just bought 5 new items of clothing. She plans to rotate them so she has a variety of outfits. Study the schedule below. If each item follows its own pattern what will she wear in the fifth week?

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<td>pants</td>
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<td>Skirt</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Week 5</td>
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Put your answers in the box outside Year 4 to win a prize.

Term 2 Calendar
All of Term 2 dates are now on the Skoolbag App. Please feel free to add them to your personal calendar, you can then print and stick it on the fridge!
You are invited to attend

Carroll College’s Year 7, 2016
Open House
And Information Night

Monday 4 May, 2015

Tours will be available
From 5.00pm – 5.30pm

Information Session will begin at 5.45pm

Refreshments will be available
All welcome!

For more details please contact Nadine on 44715600 or email nadine.cooper@cg.catholic.edu.au
You are invited to come and join us for OPEN DAY at St Mary’s, Moruya on Tuesday 5 May.
9:30am–12:00pm

Open Day will commence in the Performing Arts Centre with a welcome morning tea, followed by school tours, activities led by our Year 6 leaders and a sausage sizzle.

Join us for a morning of fun as the children rotate through a range of exciting learning experiences capturing life at “Big School”.

The St Mary’s community looks forward to welcoming you and your family.

We WELCOME you!

School Executive
Principal: Michael Lowe
Assistant Principal: Catrina Niddrie
Religious Education Coordinator: Marg Croese

School Contact Details
Phone: 4474 2817
Fax: 4474 4347
Email: office.stmarysmoruya@catholic.edu.au
Open Classrooms
Monday 11 May

10am - 12pm

Everyone is warmly invited to attend our Open Classrooms.
Come and see the wonderful learning opportunities that St Mary’s provide.

Take a tour of our school and facilities led by our Year 6 Leaders.
Collect an enrolment pack and return completed to Annette at the front office.
Come and meet our Principal and excellent team of educators.

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