Dear Families

Welcome back to the third term of the year. I hope all families had a restful and enjoyable holiday with their children. My thanks to all the families and staff who attended the working bee on the first Saturday of the holidays. It was a great turn out and all the jobs on the list were completed within the time. The oval was marked, gutters cleaned out, doors repaired, the car park marked out and the fence repaired, just to name a few.

The new Year 1 classrooms will be ready for occupation at the beginning of Week 4. We shall then relocate the Year 3 classes to the new building and the hall. The library will be refurbished this term before Book Week. The Year 2 classroom that was refurbished during the holidays looks great. The children are enjoying their new space. The new corridor into Year 4, 5 and 6 has also been completed and is a welcome change.

Bike-a-thon
The bike-a-thon was a huge success thanks to the wonderful St Mary’s community. My thanks to Jess Afflick for her work in organising the day. Thanks to all the parents who volunteered to transport the bikes to Broulee and to those who supported the children on the ride. Finally I wish to thank the children and the sponsors for assisting in this fund raising event. The draw for prizes will take place next Thursday afternoon in the PAC. The first prize will be for a new push bike and there will be 20 other prizes on offer for the children. The children will receive a raffle ticket for every $5 collected. Please send in all sponsorship money before the big draw next Thursday.

Parent Teacher Meetings
The parent teacher interviews will be happening next week and we hope to have the times confirmed by letter today. Thank you to all those families who have responded so well to this invitation to discuss your child’s progress.

NAIDOC Mass
Next Friday July 24, some of our children will travel by bus to Canberra for the NAIDOC Mass at the Cathedral. We shall have our school celebration of NAIDOC week during Week 3 of this term. We have secured funding for a new garden at the rear of the PAC and we should be in a position to open the new garden during this week.

School Mass
All are invited to attend the term opening school Mass tomorrow morning at 9.15am in the parish church.

Best wishes
Mick Lowe
Principal

Maths problem of the week!!
The number 2 is the first even number; the number 4 is the second even number and so forth. What is the sum of the first 25 even numbers?
Religion News

A very warm welcome back to St Mary’s for Term 3. We hope all families had a restful and happy holiday.

The Gospel for this Sunday
In Mark’s Gospel this Sunday Jesus invites his disciples to rest after their ministry, and Jesus is moved with pity for the crowds who pursue them. The Twelve, who were sent by Jesus to preach repentance, heal the sick, and drive out demons. When the Twelve return to Jesus, he invites them to come away from the crowds and rest. But the crowds will not give them peace. As the Twelve have shared in Jesus’ ministry, they now appear to share in his popularity. The crowds continue to approach them, and Mark reports that the disciples don’t even have time to eat. In an effort to get away, Jesus and his disciples board a boat in hopes of finding a deserted place. But the crowds notice this and arrive ahead of them. The crowds are so persistent that Jesus and his disciples cannot find a place to be alone. Mark’s Gospel tells us that Jesus is moved with pity and begins to teach the crowds. If we were to continue reading from Mark’s Gospel, we would hear Jesus instruct his disciples to feed the crowd in the familiar miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes.

Whole School Mass
We welcome all families and friends to our whole school Mass tomorrow morning at 9.15 in the Church. Fr Dominic will celebrate this Mass with us as we join together as a school and parish community to pray and give thanks for our many gifts. The Staff and students will lead the Mass in the readings and dramatisation of the Gospel.

Dates for Term 3—a very busy term
Tuesday 21 July—NAIDOC Liturgy at Carroll College at 10am.
Friday 24 July—Year 6 Class Mass
Friday 24 July—NAIDOC Mass in Canberra.
Friday 31 July—NAIDOC Focus Assembly 12 midday in PAC.
Friday 7 August—Year 4 Focus Assembly.
Friday 7 August—Mary Mackillop Day at CC—Yr 6 attending.
Wednesday 12 August—Yr 2 Retreat at Pines.
Friday 14 August—Whole School Mass
Friday 21 August—Year 2 Class Mass.
Wednesday 26 August—Sacrament of Reconciliation 5.30pm.
Friday 4 September—Kinder Focus Assembly for Father’s Day.
Friday 11 September—Year 5 Class Mass
Friday 18 September—John Burland Concert in PAC.

Prayers
We pray especially for the Strahlendorf Family (Adam in KCK) as Louise’s mother Christine died on Wednesday after a short illness. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to them at this very sad time.

Continued over page ...
A Prayer of Thanks for all God’s Children

Lord our God

We thank you that you made each one of us in your image and likeness, and that we are all your beloved children.

We pray for the children we teach.

We pray for children who … make us smile;
… challenge our way of thinking;
… test our patience;
… we find easy to like;
… we find difficult to like;
… are bright;
… are a delight;
… like to laugh;
… always look sad;
… always look lost;
… talk all the time;
… never say a word;
… are easily overlooked;
… are impossible to ignore;
… remind us of ourselves when we were younger!

We thank you for all the children who have an impact on our lives and for the privilege of having an impact on their lives.

Lord, use those we teach to teach us. Help us to be Christ-like at all times; seeing each one with your eyes and valuing them with your heart of love.

We ask this prayer in the name of Jesus the teacher.

Amen
Welcome to Term 3. I hope you have all had a restful break and enjoyed the down time together relaxing as a family. It is hard to believe that half a year has passed by and we are now at the beginning of Semester 2; another new start and time to set goals for the remainder of 2015. Hopefully everyone is feeling relaxed and refreshed and ready for the busy weeks ahead.

**Bike-A-Thon**
Congratulation to all the students who participated in and raised money for the Bike-A-Thon. A fantastic day was had by all. Thank you to Mrs Afflick and the organising team for such a smooth day. Well done! Included is a wonderful pic collage showing a terrific day by all.

**Raising the Flag**
Congratulations to Mrs Croese, Mrs Hadley, Mrs Boyenga and the school Choir for a wonderful performance at the Council Chambers on Monday 10 July, for the Moruya Naidoc week town celebrations. The choir sang two beautiful songs, “Kookuburra sits in the Old gum tree”, in traditional Dhurga and “One People One Land”. It was also a very special occasion as Tamarni T raised the flag with her Great Grandmother Georgina Parsons. Thank you to the parents for bringing the choir members to the ceremony. Everyone looked spic and span in their uniforms. Your efforts were greatly appreciated. Please see the pic collage showing this very special occasion.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**
Parents will by now have had the chance to ‘digest’ your children’s reports. Teachers are looking forward to meeting with you next week on Tuesday 21 July or Wednesday 22 July. Appointment notices will come home today. Please check your child’s bag for this important slip. Parents are more than welcome to bring your child’s school report with you to the conference. To make the most of your conference time, as well as discussing your child’s progress towards the goals set at the beginning of the year, parents may wish to consider the following questions:

- Where would you like to see your child develop further this year?
- Is there anything in your child’s life outside school that could be impacting on their educational development?
- What can we do together to continue helping support your child?

**ICAS Certificates**
At this coming Monday Awards Assembly, students who sat the Digital Technologies competition will receive their awards. All parents are welcome to attend.

**Southern Region Public Speaking**
Next week our Stage 2 and Stage 3 representatives will showcase their amazing Public Speaking skills. Year 3 and Year 4 will compete here at St Mary’s on Wednesday and Year 5 and Year 6 will compete next Thursday at St Patrick’s Cooma.

Year 3:Charlotte W and Jessica T
Year 4: Felicity L and Bailey B
Year 5: Madeleine W and Grace R
Year 6: Gemma M and Bree M

*We wish the students all the best!*

**ACU Prac Students**
Sadly we say goodbye to our two prac students from ACU tomorrow. We hope you both have had a fabulous time at St Mary’s and that you have learnt a lot that will put in good stead for becoming well-rounded educators. We thank Hayley and Leyrizza for all their hard work and wish them all the best for the future.

**Wishing God’s best for you**
Catrina Niddrie
Assistant Principal
BIKE-A-THON 2015!

The weather held off for us and we enjoyed a fantastic day out at Broulee for the Bike-a-thon! It was wonderful to see the excitement shared by all of the students whether they were riding or walking. A huge thanks must go to all of the parents who volunteered their time and trailers to assist us on the day. It really is a team effort and we appreciate having your smiling faces always there to lend a hand and help make these special days possible, as we know how much the children get out of them!

Jessica Afflick

Here are some of the highlights from the day:

Zara H - I loved riding my bike.

Mitchell Z - I rode my bike through a big puddle, it was lots of fun. And I went on a bridge with my bike.

Lorelei B - I loved going on my bike but I walked some bits and pushed my bike. I rode really, really fast.

Cee Cee S - We made a sandcastle on the beach and we made a mermaid. I had lots of fun!

Ewan C - I liked doing the sandcastle competition on the beach. We built a foot sandcastle.

Michaela F - I liked riding my bike on a dirt track. I rode a really long way with my dad. He couldn't keep up with me because I was so fast on my big bike with 6 gears!

Baley D - I loved riding my bike in the Bike-a-thon. It was really fun going on the dirt track.

Nash G - I went in the walkathon on the beach. The best part was building sandcastles and I built a big knight castle.

Tyler C - I loved riding my bike with my friends. I rode pretty fast and it was exciting.

Chloe H - it was really fun because you got to cooperate with the group. I was happy I didn't get hurt when I was riding my bike.

Kaitlyn P - I liked how we got to ride on heaps on different kinds of roads like dirt roads and pathways and normal roads.

Jessica F - my favourite part of the day was getting to ride my bike with my friends.

Josh C — What I liked best about the Bike-a-thon was getting to ride with all my friends. I also liked the food at the end!

Jessica M — My favourite part of the day was when we got to the finish line and we knew that we had just ridden the whole 10 kilometres!
Bike-a-thon Fun!
Welcome back to Term 3. It is hard to believe we are more than half way through the year now. I hope everyone had a restful and hard earned holiday.

Once again, I look forward to working with the SRC this Semester. I would like to congratulate and thank the SRC students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 for their hard work over Semester 1. You brought so many fantastic ideas to each meeting and always showed hard work and initiative. Some of the highlights were St Patrick’s Day and Pirate Day.

Each Semester there are two new SRC members elected from Years 3, 4 and 5. Our Year 6 leaders continue their leadership role until the end of the year. A huge thank you must go to Charlotte W, Austin P, Jessica T, Matilda K, Charlee P, Claire M, James M and Mikaylah C. You have proven to be great ambassadors and leaders at St Mary’s and I thank you for giving up your lunch time each Thursday.

Yesterday students in Year 3, 4 and 5 presented speeches to be elected in the SRC for Semester 2. From all accounts the speeches were fantastic. Those who have been elected will be presented after Mass tomorrow in the Church. New badges have been ordered and those will be handed out as soon as they arrive.

Don’t forget there is an IDEAS BOX in Miss O’Hehir’s room (hall) for any student in the school to write ideas for the SRC to discuss at our Thursday meetings. Perhaps you might see your idea on the school calendar!

Keep an eye out for the SRC’s weekly article in the newsletter for once again fantastic and enjoyable fundraisers and days at St Mary’s.

Sophie O’Hehir

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The St Mary’s Mini Vinnies group will continue to run over Semester 2. I would like to congratulate the Semester 1 group for all of their hard work and ideas they bring to each meeting. Thank you to Monique B, Harry E, Lisa H, Nathaniel T, Emily S, Lily G and Hugh C. Some of the highlights over the semester were visiting the Retirement Village and giving the residents Easter cards and of course the fun and competitive soup can line for the Vinnies Winter Appeal!

There will be a new group elected for Semester 2. The group will consist of 2 students (one boy and one girl) from each class in Years 3-6. This group will be elected over the next couple of weeks.

What is Mini Vinnies?

Mini Vinnies is a group of primary school young people who get together to help those in need within their school and local community. Mini Vinnies introduces children to social justice issues, to the St Vincent de Paul Society and to living faith through action.

What does a Mini Vinnies group do?

Mini Vinnies is about doing good works in the community, but it is also about young people meeting to talk, to share ideas and concerns, to have fun and to support each other. The Vinnies model of ‘See, Think, Do’* is a great way to get young people thinking and talking about their spirituality; by connecting their beliefs and values with service activities and issues in their community, they can help to make their faith real, meaningful and relevant.

See – ‘Seeing’ means becoming aware of some of the community’s social ills and knowing that, whilst there are many beautiful things in this world, it can always be made a little better by good works. ‘Seeing’ is an opportunity for members of a Mini Vinnies group to be exposed, often for the first time, to some of the world’s troubles. It is an opportunity for members of a Mini Vinnies group to develop empathy for those in need.

Think – ‘Thinking’ is an opportunity for Mini Vinnies members to share their thoughts, to engage in thoughtful discussion and to consider and form their relationships with their peers, those in need and Christ.

Do – ‘Doing’ means supporting the Society in its good works in Australia and overseas. ‘Doing’ is an opportunity for children to do something about the issues they have seen, thought about, and discussed.

Sophie O’Hehir
General Information

NAIDOC School Celebrations
We are looking forward to a range of events to celebrate NAIDOC in the coming weeks.

**Tuesday 21 July** - NAIDOC ceremony at Carroll College. Aboriginal students in Years 4-6 and captains attending.

**Friday 24 July** - Archdiocese NAIDOC Mass at St Christopher’s Cathedral, Canberra. Aboriginal students from Years 4-6 and captains attending.

**Monday 27 July** - Opening of St Mary’s NAIDOC ceremony at Awards Assembly 9.00am. Smoking ceremony and guest speaker will launch our special week. Morning tea for parents and special guests.

**Monday 27 July - Friday 31 July** - Message stick activities in classes involving a range of activities including Year 6 excursion to museum, class visits from community members to demonstrate skills, planting of bush tucker garden, construction of a Reconciliation tree

**Friday 31 July** - Focus Assembly 12pm. Prayer and showcase of class activities. Afternoon tea for parents and Aboriginal students.

We invite all members of our school community to attend.

Kerry Boyenga and Karen Hadley

A big thank you
A big thank you to the Choir students Bree McF, Cooper B, Madeline H, Lachlan D, Matilda T, Kara H, Tamarni T, Sophee McF, Annabelle P, Mikey C, Cameron P, Ruby H, Vivienne J and Bailey D who were able to be present for the opening ceremony of NAIDOC Week at the Shire Council in the holidays. Although we were few in number the students sang beautifully with their rendition of “This Is Our Land” and the Aboriginal song “Gugunyal Yaladha.” Year 3 student Tamarni T had the honour of raising the Aboriginal Flag with her great grandmother Georgina Parsons.

Woolworths Earn & Learn
We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between Wednesday 15 July and Tuesday 8 September 2015. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.

Simply pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it's completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woolies. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program, and we'd like to get lots of new gear! Products in the range include resources for mathematics, English, science, art & crafts, through to sports gear, library supplies and more.
Raising the Flag
NAIDOC WEEK
Teach your kids about time and place

My mum used to tell me, “There’s a time and place for everything Michael, and this is not the time and place to behave like that!”

My mum’s words came back to me as I watched three kids (tweens and early teens) try to out-wrestle and out-shout each other while they waited in an airport queue with their parents. Their noise and wrestling quite obviously disturbed and interfered with fellow travellers, but their parents made no attempt to rein in their behaviour.

I couldn’t help thinking that there is a time and place for this type of behaviour and THIS WAS NEITHER OF THOSE!

Time and place is a brilliant socialisation lesson for children of any age or era to absorb. It starts by asking yourself as a parent: “What does this social situation reasonably require of my children at their age and stage of development?”

In the above case it’s reasonable to expect tweens and teens to be able to stand in a queue without disturbing others for the ten minutes that it took to get service. It’s should be easy for that age group to show some self-control and consideration for others.

That timeframe maybe a stretch for under fives, but some parental attention to distract them from being bored may do the trick. The principle is the same regardless of age or a child’s developmental stage, but the application varies.

Socialising kids
It’s a parent’s job to socialise your kids. That is, it’s your job to develop a sense of OTHER so that they become aware of how their behaviour impacts on others. Many kids have I. Plates when it comes to behaving in public so they need your assistance to behave according to the requirements of the situation – or according to the time and place. You do this by:

1 Giving your kids social scripts
There are times when kids don’t know what to say or how to act in different social situations. “Here’s what you can say when you meet Mrs. Smith.....” is the type of preemptive social scripting that benefits most boys, kids on the autism spectrum as well as kids who need extra help to get on with others.

2 Regular behaviour rehearsal
Practise appropriate social behaviours at home so kids know how to behave around others. For example, you can role-play a restaurant situation by serving your kids’ meals at the dinner table and expecting them to use their manners.

3 Just-in-time prompts
It helps to remind in positive terms how kids should speak and act around others before entering a social situation or a special place such as a church, airport or restaurant. “In church most people.......”

4 Teaching good manners
Manners are social guidelines that teach kids how to behave around others. While some conventions change over time, basic good manners such as saying ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ never change. They are the basis of a civil society. Kids are never too young to start learning manners.

5 Respectful use of consequences
While the best discipline happens before an event (through behaviour rehearsal, prompts and teaching manners) there are times when the only way to get a message across about time and place is to DO something if the kids’ behaviour thoughtlessly or deliberately impinges on the rights of others. And the best action may be WITHDRAWAL from the place or activity that they are doing. That may mean that the kids (and you) miss out on an activity or being in a special place but such lessons are rarely forgotten and reinforce your important messages.

Time and place is a great parenting message for kids to learn. It’s about consideration for others; it’s about self-control and above all else, it’s about fitting into different social situations.
Community Announcements

moruya slsc
TOWN to SURF FUN RUN

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2015
6.45am Registrations  |  8.45am Race Briefing  |  9.00am Race Start

where
START Moruya Riverside Park
FINISH Moruya Surf Club

register & more info
online moruyasurf.org.au or Rustic Pantry Moruya

questions
Tracey 0417 058 338  Mike 02 4474 4046

PRIZES  JUMPING CASTLE  BBQ  MUSIC IN THE PARK
ENTRIES OPEN TO INDIVIDUALS & TEAMS, INC. FREE T SHIRT/SINGLET

A FUNDRAISER FOR
MORUYA SLSC
GUARDIANS OF THE SURF

MAJOR SPONSOR

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY