Dear Parents,

This week we have been conducting parent teacher interviews involving the children in the discussions and goal setting for Semester 2. The feedback from the teachers has been very positive as we are keen to invite the children to take more ownership of their learning. I hope the interviews have been a positive experience for all families as well.

First Eucharist

A well-attended enrolment meeting was held on Tuesday evening for children wishing to make their First Eucharist. The celebration will be held on August 28 at the 10am Mass. If your family was unable to attend the enrolment evening, please make contact with Mrs Croese who has all the information and forms.

Prayers

Please keep Fr Dominic in your prayers. Fr Dom is in Poland attending World Youth Day and sadly he lost his mother while he was away. She had been sick for some time. Fr Dom is due back in Australia on Saturday 6th August.

NAIDOC Celebrations

Thanks for sending the children along in coloured t-shirts yesterday. The photograph looked amazing and will be framed for display. Tomorrow will be the celebration for our school and the children will engage in various activities around health and well-being. As usual parents are very welcome to attend and take part in the activities on the day.

Director’s Visit

The Director of Catholic Education for this Archdiocese will be visiting St Mary’s on Tuesday afternoon. Sadly, this will be Moira’s last visit as Director. Moira will retire at the end of the school year and has led the Archdiocese for the last 10 years. A new Director will be appointed in the not too distant future.

Athletics Carnival

Next Thursday August 3 is the regional athletics carnival in Bega. Children in the team have received notification. Some of the children will travel by bus and the rest of the team will travel by car. We wish the team every success.

School Fees

Beginning next term, school fee statements will be sent via email. If you need to update the email address we have on file, please contact Annette or Gen in the office on 44742817.

Just for Fun

What did the grocer say when he ran out of onions?
That’s shallot.

Why did the decorator nail a rug to the wall?
He wanted a mat finish.

Best wishes

Mick Lowe
Principal
In Luke’s Gospel this Sunday, Jesus tells the crowd a parable. A rich man’s lands have yielded more crops than expected. His response is not to consider how he might share all the extra food with others but to wonder how he can possibly store it all. “You fool” is God’s response to this man because that very night his life will be taken away. To whom will everything belong then? God asks. The rich man’s world is small, just him and his possessions, and now he learns that he is to lose his life. What good are his possessions now? Jesus states the moral of the story. This is how it will be for everyone who stores up treasure for himself or herself but is not rich in what matters to God. Centuries later St. Gregory the Great taught that when we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist in possessions but in sharing what we possess with others. The goods of the earth have been given to everyone.

**First Eucharist Meeting**
A big thank you to all the families who were able to attend the enrolment meeting for First Eucharist on Tuesday night. The supper of hot soup and rolls was well received by both parents and children. The meeting was led by Father John who went through the symbols and signs and the meaning of the Sacrament. Other speakers on the night were Mr Lowe and class teachers Mrs Devonald and Mr Bateman. If any parents were unable to attend the meeting, but would like their child to make their First Eucharist they are welcome to contact Rachel at the Presbytery on 44742024 or myself at school. Thank you.

**School Mass**
We thank Fr John for celebrating our first Mass for the term with us last Friday. The Mass was very joyful with the students leading us in the readings and the Prayers of the Faithful. We also thank Takiya N, Lawson H, Zoey S, Karla W, Bailey P and Tyler C for their wonderful dramatisation of Mary Magdelene washing the feet of Jesus in the Gospel.

**Class Mass**
Year 6 participated in their class Mass today at 9.15am. Fr Charles who is a visiting Missionary priest, celebrated the Mass with Year 6.

**Prayers**
We pray for Father Dominic, as his mother passed away last week. We remember in our prayers Miranda T’s family as her grandfather passed away. We continue to pray for the families and friends in our school community who are sick.

**St Vinnies Winter Appeal**
Mrs Jan Ganderton, the President of St Vincent de Paul spoke to us at assembly on Monday asking for our help for their winter appeal. Jan asked if each family in the school could donate a can of soup they would be very grateful and it will help many families in Moruya who face difficulties this winter. The soup cans can be left in your child/ren’s classroom thank you.

We pray

Father I stretch my hands to you. No other help I know. When nothing in this world makes sense to me God, wrap me in your arms, draw me nearer.

Have a safe and happy weekend

Marg Croese
Religious Education Coordinator
Whole School Mass for beginning of Term 3
I am a bit of a bibliophile. I love books. Part of the desire is to look for what makes sense of the world and to make connections. In looking for patterns and what fits I find myself in an ongoing search for what is real and lasting. However, at times I also need to remember that books are a way of engaging with the thinking of others and to have conversations with them but they are not an end in themselves. They are a way of assisting us to learn about life but they are not a replacement for engaging with what sustains life.

It is the same with many things which can become a security for us, whether it is money, possessions, the work we engage with, relationships or our favourite hobby. These are all important ways of seeking to find meaning in life but they do not substitute for what lies at the heart of life. We are called to seek a relationship which lies at the heart of all relationships. We are called to be people of prayer who prayerfully engage with our world. This is a call to be attentive and present. To listen for what is important for this day and this moment. It calls us to be real and in tune with the heart of God who seeks us out. In discovering what is real we find what is the treasure which sustains us.

Author Study: In the lead up to book week we will be showcasing great Australian Authors.

We begin with the amazing and talented author: Graeme Base

Graeme Base received international acclaim for his runaway bestseller *Animalia*, which has sold more than two million copies. Among his many other beloved and bestselling books are *Enigma*, *The Eleventh Hour*, *The Water Hole*, and *The Legend of the Golden Snail*. He lives with his family in Melbourne, Australia. If you would like to learn about Graeme and his amazing books his official website is: [http://graemebase.com/](http://graemebase.com/)

Imagine the book week costume ideas you can get from his fabulous books!
Congratulations to Stuart L, Grace R and Jordan B who received awards at the NAIDOC ceremony in Canberra last Friday. The awards were presented to the students by Moira Najdecki, Archdiocesan Director of Catholic Education.

**SRC NEWS**


**Spotlight on the SRC**

**Zac. C– Year 5 Representative**

When did you commence at St Mary’s? 2011
What is one of your favourite school memories? Starting school
One thing you love about St Mary’s: The nice students and teachers.
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: I want to help people in need.
Favourite book: Roald Dahl books
Interests and hobbies: Playing rugby union and basketball
What are your dreams for the future? Become a builder or farmer.

Sophie Kenny

**Mini Vinnies News**

Welcome back to Term 3! I am looking forward to working with the new Mini Vinnies group for Semester 2. Congratulations to the following students who were elected:


Our first initiative for the term is supporting St Vincent De Paul for the Winter Appeal with as many soup cans as possible. Last year the Mini Vinnies group hosted a competition for the class who brought in the most soup cans. We will be once again hosting the famous soup can line this term. More details to follow! Watch this space!

Sophie Kenny

Tomorrow is our Wellbeing Day which is part of our NAIDOC celebration. The Focus Assembly and Smoking Ceremony begin at 9:00am. Aboriginal students throughout the school and all of Kindergarten will have a role in the assembly. Following this special liturgy, students will have fruit and vegetable platters to share with their class members, take part in Yulanga Traditional Indigenous game rotations led by Year 6, learn information about healthy eating from Community Health workers, listen to Dreamtime stories and participate in mixed-aged cooperative activities to foster emotional wellbeing.

**NAIDOC Award Recipients**

Congratulations to Stuart L, Grace R and Jordan B who received awards at the NAIDOC ceremony in Canberra last Friday. The awards were presented to the students by Moira Najdecki, Archdiocesan Director of Catholic Education.
Week 2 Class Awards

To be presented at assembly: 2.30pm, Monday 1st August

Congratulations to the following children who received class awards this week. It is great to see so many children working hard and receiving acknowledgment for their efforts - well done to all!

**Kinder W:** Taylah C, Marguerite J, Jack Mc
**Kinder C:** Ashleigh H, Molly B, Lily VW
**Year 1K:** Cooper M, Mitchell Z, Charlotte R
**Year 1/2J:** Sophee Mc, Autumn B-C, Jack B
**Year 2S:** Zoey S, Dane G, Seth H
**Year 3B:** Jayda E, Zane B, Will G, Charlotte M
**Year 3D:** Lake H, Scarlett W, Riley N
**Year 4JA:** Bernadette B, Samantha E, Emily C
**Year 4JP:** Charlotte S, Angelina H, Rhianna B
**Year 5:** Lisa H, Charlee P, Lachlan D, Bobby G
**Year 6:** Bernie L, Makaylah C, Taesha T

BOOK WEEK 2016

We will be holding our annual Book Week parade on Thursday in week 6, Term 3.
The theme for this year’s book week is: **Australia: Story-Country in the past 70 years**
It’s time to start planning your parade costume, inspired by Australian literature!

**Worm wee is WORMTASTIC!**
High in beneficial microbes I High disease suppression I Increased pest resistance I Increased plant vigour
Won’t burn foliage I Use 1-part worm wee with 4 - 9 parts water I Shake well before use.
**Warning:** Not for human consumption.
Available now for only 50c per litre. Please pay at the front office (all proceeds will go to the Garden Club)

Winter uniforms needed

Do you have any uniform items your children have grown out of? Donations to our uniform pool are always appreciated! Items can be left at the front office.
The uniform pool is open in the PAC immediately after assembly on Monday afternoons.
Items are available for a gold coin donation.
Thank you!

Congratulations

Congratulations to three of Marina Bell’s piano students who completed their AMEB piano exams last term with excellent results:
**Harry E** was awarded an A pass (Honours) for Preliminary
**Tess K** was awarded an A pass (Honours) for Preliminary
**Jessica M** was awarded an A pass (Honours) for 1st grade

**Ashleigh H, Jessica M, Piper W**
When kids bend the truth

As a rule of thumb, step back and try to identify the purpose of a child’s untruths. This indicates to parents how they should deal with the behaviour.

Children often bend the truth to suit themselves. They sometimes tell fibs to escape punishment or avoid being caught when misbehaviour occurs.

Some kids fantasise about their exploits to make themselves appear bigger, more daring or more exciting than they really are. These children often think that they are not much good and so invent a few tales to make themselves seem more interesting. Of course, some children fantasise purely because it is fun to stretch the truth a little. It is more fun to run away from ‘a ferocious man-eating tiger’ than be scared of the next-door neighbour’s moggie.

As a rule of thumb, step back and try to identify the purpose of a child’s untruths. This indicates to parents how they should deal with the behaviour.

Escaping negative consequences
Eight-year-old Pamela spilt a container of milk on the kitchen floor. She panicked, replaced the empty container in the refrigerator and went off to her bedroom to read. When her mother saw the mess, she asked Pamela if she knew what had happened. The child denied any knowledge of it. ‘What milk do you mean, Mum?’ said Pamela, with an innocent look on her face. Her mother, knowing immediately that her daughter was responsible, asked her to help to clean up the mess. Avoiding a scene, she made sure that her daughter didn’t escape the consequence of cleaning up the mess that she had made.

A matter of trust
Thirteen-year-old Britta was refused permission to visit an older friend after school, as her mother thought the friend unsuitable company for her daughter. Resenting her mother’s interference Britta frequently visited her older friend. When her mother asked her where she was going after school she would lie and tell her that she was visiting a friend that her mother approved of. Eventually her mother found out through an acquaintance that Britta had been lying to her about her visits. She confronted her daughter with the truth. Her mother dealt with the matter of the illicit visits. She was not permitted to go out after school for two weeks. This was an appropriate consequence that matched the misbehaviour. She dealt with the matter of lying separately, pointing out that it was difficult to trust her daughter when she didn’t tell the truth.

Fantasising
Some children continually exaggerate to make everything appear bigger or better than in real life. In this way they appear more exciting or interesting than they think they are. This is a sign of discouragement. It is best to go along with these children’s tales, although you should let them know that you are aware of the truth without bursting their bubble.

more on page 2
When kids bend the truth...

It is fine to exaggerate, but they should never be too far away from reality. Persistent fantasisers often need plenty of encouragement. Let them know that they are OK as they are. Fantasising and telling tall tales may be fun but they don’t need to fantasise to build themselves up. Youngest children in the family often tell whoppers in an effort to make themselves seem important in the eyes of older siblings.

Imaginary friends
Some children will use imaginary friends to avoid doing things they don’t want to do. ‘Mr. Bear says I don’t have to go bed.’ If it only happens once in a while then it’s a bit of fun. It can become wearing if it’s a continuous avoidance strategy. If that’s the case, try the direct approach. ‘Mr. Bear could be right. But I’m your mum and I know it’s bedtime. Mr. Bear can join you if he likes.’

Don’t overreact
Be careful not to overreact when children tell lies. It is better to recognise the child’s goal and act in a way that prevents the behaviour from achieving its purpose. There is little point moralising about the evils of lying. Children know that they should be good; they don’t need to be reminded all the time. Children will continue behaviours that serve a purpose, regardless of whether the actions are morally good or bad. It is more useful to ensure that lying doesn’t achieve its goal and to encourage children at every conceivable occasion.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.

parentingideas.com.au

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23 June 2016

TO: PARENTS AND CARERS

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: 2016 NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

Catholic schools along with government and Independent schools across Australia will again be participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). Our involvement in this process is crucial as it will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students in our schools. The NCCD will enable National and State governments to better target support and resources in schools, this in turn will help Catholic Schools access the support for all students with additional needs.

The NCCD is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which includes a range of health issues and learning difficulties where schools implement strategies to support students in participating effectively in their learning.

The Data Collection will take place in August. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included, however, if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the NCCD, you are asked to contact your child’s principal to discuss your concerns. If you are still concerned you should request and complete an opt-out form and return to the principal.

More information about the NCCD is available at:
http://www.schooldisabilitydataapl.edu.au/

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Patrick Kelly
Senior Officer Wellbeing & Diversity
YEAR 6 LEADERSHIP TEAM PRESENTS...

ST MARY’S

TALENT QUEST FINAL

THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
DOORS OPEN @ 6PM
BRING A YUMMY PLATE FOR SUPPER
TEA, COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
GOLD COIN DONATION ENTRY