Dear Families

Yesterday marked the beginning of the Season of Lent. The children attended the Ash Wednesday Mass in the church as all received a special blessing with the ashes. This was the first time the children from Kindergarten attended Mass with the whole school and I was very impressed with their focus and concentration. The children in Year 6 who sat with the Kinders did a wonderful job of encouraging the children to take part in the Mass. Congratulations to all our Year 6 leaders.

During Lent we try to focus on improving ourselves and improving the life of others. Children will be encouraged to do something special this Lent. This could be as simple as making their bed each morning or not arguing with their brothers and sisters. Each classroom will have a Project Compassion box on the prayer table and the children can donate coins that will form part of our contribution to the Missions this term.

Trivia Night

Next Thursday night all are invited to attend the Trivia Night to raise money to support the Hazell family with medical and travel expenses following Sarah’s accident in December last year. The night promises to be a great one. We are receiving some donations from families and businesses alike and if you would like to donate please contact the front office and speak to Gen. The night will begin at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start and it is BYOG and nibbles.

Bookings of tables and individuals are being taken at the front office with a cost of $10 per head for the night.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our age champions and race winners who received their ribbons at the assembly on Monday afternoon. The St Mary’s swimming team will travel to Narooma for the regional swimming carnival next Tuesday 16 February. A bus will collect our team from St Mary’s and a note has been sent home in regard to the travel arrangements. Good luck to all our swimmers.

Special Celebration

We are so happy to congratulate Miss Sophie O’Hehir on her forthcoming wedding. Sophie will be married at St Bernard’s church on Saturday February 20. We wish both Sophie and Mick all our best wishes for a wonderful day and a fulfilling life together.

While on the subject of congratulations we wish to congratulate Jess and Jeff Afflick on the expected delivery of a new baby. Jess will be taking maternity leave from the end of Term 2 for the remainder of the school year.

Staff Mass

This Saturday evening at the 6.00pm Mass the staff of St Mary’s have been invited to attend an induction into the new school year. All families are most welcome to come along.

Just for Fun

Q. What do you call very expensive Velcro?
A. A rip off

Mick Lowe, Principal
Gospel for First Sunday in Lent

Jesus is reported to have spent forty days in the desert after his baptism, fasting and praying. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger, he offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship him, and he tempts Jesus to put God’s promise of protection to the test. In each case, Jesus resists, citing words from Scripture to rebuke the devil’s temptation. Each temptation that Jesus faces offers insight into the spirituality we hope to develop as we keep the forty days of the Season of Lent. We can trust God to provide for our material needs. We can trust God to be faithful to his promises. Jesus’ rejection of the devil’s temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. This Gospel highlights for us one of the central themes of the Season of Lent. We are dependent upon God for all that we have and all that we are. Jesus knows that he will be tempted again in the Garden of Gethsemane. The depth of Jesus’ trust in God is shown most fully when Jesus rejects the temptation to turn away from the task God has given to him. Jesus’ final rebuke of the devil is his sacrifice on the Cross. Jesus’ responses to the temptations of the devil teach us how we can respond to temptation. As we start our journey through Lent, this Sunday’s Gospel calls us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God’s word alone will suffice, God’s promise of protection can be trusted, and God alone is God.

Confirmation Enrolment Night

Thank you to the parents and students who were able to attend the enrolment meeting for Confirmation on Tuesday night. It was wonderful to see the great number of people in attendance. For those who were unable to attend, enrolment packages are available at the Presbytery during office hours. At the conclusion of the meeting we enjoyed pancakes to celebrate Pancake Day. We thank the chefs, especially our parishioner, Jan Morris who provided a very enjoyable supper for all. Pancake Day or Shrove Tuesday, is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. In the past, Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes were the perfect way of using up these ingredients.

Lent What we often miss in our Lenten promise is that the pre-Easter period is not so much about the things that we lose, but more importantly the love and blessings of God which we gain as a result of our sacrifices. Explore some new ways of praying this Lent, Pope Francis says, “Lent is a favourable time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him. This happens whenever we hear the word of God and receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. There we become what we receive: the Body of Christ.” – Lenten Message, 2015. Lent is a time to clear away the clutter so that we can focus on the more important relationships in life.

Ash Wednesday Mass

We celebrated Mass as a whole school yesterday to mark the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. We thank Mrs Keough and our Year 6 students for leading us so reverently in the Mass by participating in the readings, dramatisation of the Gospel and the Prayers of the Faithful and for looking after their Kinder buddies. Father made the sign of the cross on the forehead of each person asking us to try to be better people and help others during Lent.

Social Justice Day

Students in Year 6 will take part in a Social Justice Leadership day next Wednesday 17 February in the PAC. The students will be challenged to think of what good leadership is and how they can show good leadership at home, at school and in the community. St Bernard’s Year 6 classes will also participate in the day.
Religion News

Time
to give a moment to you, Lord,
before I get ready for the day’s
commitments and chores.

Time to start afresh with you,
and with others,
my Lord and my God.
I ask you to bless me
as I take on the challenges
of this new day.

Help me this morning
as I share this moment with you
to be positive
for the day ahead.

Thank you, Lord,
for your friendship.
Knowing that you help me
guide me in my thoughts, my
words, my actions this day
to be of help to those I meet.

Bless me
at the start of this day
as I spend this little moment
thinking of your love for me.
Amen.

Have a safe and happy week
Marg Croese
Religious Education Coordinator
TRIVIA NIGHT.... TRIVIA NIGHT.... TRIVIA NIGHT

Trivia Night - Fundraiser for the Hazell Family
Our first get together for 2016 is a very special school fundraiser TRIVIA NIGHT. A great night full of trivia, fun and entertainment is planned for all. So come along, organise a table of 10 and be prepared to enjoy yourself!
It will be held on Thursday 18 February in the Performing Arts Centre at $10 per head or $100 per table. The night is to raise funds for our much loved Mrs Hazell and her beautiful daughter Sarah who is undergoing intense rehabilitation after her accident at the end of last year. Please show your support and join us for this wonderful and worthwhile event. The evening is BYO nibbles and drinks. Lots of raffles, 100's club, games and challenges to participate in so bring your notes and bring your coins ready to participate in a night full of fun!
For those unable to attend and who wish to donate towards Sarah’s rehabilitation we have a wishing well at school where you are more than welcome to leave donations in an envelope and pass on your good wishes to Sarah.

If there are any families or businesses who would like to donate items as prizes for the Trivia night please phone Gen or Catrina and we can organise for them to be collected or drop them into school.

COSA
Our COSA journey for 2016 has begun with a visit from Mrs Colleen Caddy from CE who will guide us on our learning experience to implement an Inquiry based Literacy block model that Adjunct Professor Kaye Lowe has been working on with us. The emphasis this year continues to be Literacy, student engagement and improving student learning through inquiry. Colleen had the day to meet and get to know the staff and discuss professional learning goals, areas of strength and areas for improvement. Colleen then collated the information and lead our staff meeting discussing the data and shared vision of the staff. Day two enabled a short term plan of implementation and a long term overview of what we would like to see happening in our classrooms by the end of 2016. We are very lucky to have Colleen as our critical friend on this journey as her wealth of knowledge and expertise can only enhance the wonderful things we already do at St Mary’s.

Punctuality
It is essential that the children arrive by 8.50am (preferably a few minutes before) and that they do not leave until 3.05pm. Please respect this request as otherwise it is very disruptive to your child’s learning and to that of the other children in the class.

Reading Volunteers
Calling parents, grandparents, friends and members of the community! If you are able to spare even just 30 minutes a week to pop in to school and listen to children read, we would love to hear from you! Reading aloud to a supportive adult is one of the most effective ways of encouraging children and achieving our goal of every child becoming a proficient and confident reader. A workshop will be offered for our Reading Helpers in a few weeks so please do watch this space for more details.

Working With Children Check
A current Working With Children Check is ESSENTIAL for all our parent helpers. This can be obtained by registering on the following website:
We would like to encourage all St Mary’s parents to obtain a Working With Children Check so that you are able to help at school or on trips whether on a regular or occasional basis.

Wishing God’s Best for you....
Catrina Niddrie  AP
**Library**

The school library is a vital part of your child’s literacy development. Encouraging your child to borrow books and reading with your child every week, will help to develop a love of reading that will continue to bring great joy and pleasure as they grow into adult readers. Reading with and to your child is also a way of connecting with each other away from the everyday stresses of our busy world. It’s a time of quiet relaxation where you can share together the magic and wonder of the written word.

To borrow from the library your child will need a library bag. A cloth bag with a drawstring and your child’s name on it is an excellent choice but any bag that can hold a picture book that may not fit into their school bag with handles or even an old pillow slip with a drawstring would suit.

**Class Library days:**
- **Mondays:** Year 6
- **Tuesdays:** Year 10, Year 1-2J, Year 2S, Year 4JA and Year 4JP
- **Wednesdays:** KW, KCH, Year 3B and 3D
- **Thursdays:** Year 5

The library will be opened for quiet activities and borrowing at Recess 1.30-2.00 Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays every week.

I am looking forward to sharing my love of reading with your child on a weekly basis during their visits to our school library.

Happy reading
Jo Matthews

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**Uniform Pool**

Our wonderful volunteers Helen and Leo Kop run a second-hand uniform pool on Monday afternoons from 2-2.30pm (in the school hall before assembly). Items are available for a gold coin donation. The uniform pool is an invaluable service to our families, and relies on donations. Do you have any items at home that your child/ren have grown out of? Your generosity would be very much appreciated!

**Urgently needed: Donations for the uniform pool**
Ph. 44742362

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**Changes to pick-up arrangements**
If you need to advise your child about a change to their pick-up arrangement, please phone the office on 44742817 by 2.30pm at the latest. This ensures the message reaches your child when class notes etc are distributed in the afternoon. Messages received later than 2.30pm usually require a loud-speaker announcement which can be disruptive to learning time.

Thank you for your cooperation.
St Mary’s Swimming Carnival 2016

What a fabulous day we had. Great weather, great sportsmanship and fantastic results. It was wonderful to see so many students participating and swimming in a variety of events this year.

These fabulous days don’t run themselves. I’d like to thank the St Mary’s staff who contributed to a very successful day. Also thanks to the help we received from parents timekeeping, starting, recording and providing refreshments. This greatly assisted the teaching staff in running a smooth carnival. I also need to thank the students for the mature way they conducted themselves, cheering for teammates and friends from other houses.

A final thank you must go to the Moruya Swimming Club for allowing us to use their clubhouse and equipment.

Age Champions: Congratulations to the following 2016 Age Champions for their spirited performances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Girl</th>
<th>11 Years Girls</th>
<th>Senior Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piper S</td>
<td>Felicity L</td>
<td>Hayley E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte S</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House Champions
The race for the winning House was a very tight contest. In the end there could be only one winning House despite the outstanding efforts from all participants. The winners were Cassidy. Congratulations to all house members for competing on the day.

A big congratulations to those who have been selected to represent St Mary’s at the Southern Region Carnival at Narooma on Tuesday February 16.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Good luck at Narooma,
Justin Bateman
Sports Coordinator
Thank you to our volunteers!

Teachers vs Parents relay

VS
Week 3 Class Awards
To be presented at assembly: 2.30pm, Monday 15 February.
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
Emily K, Bella-Rose I, Archer S

Kinder C
Isabelle C, Sonny C, Olivia S, Chelsea B

Year 1 O
Adam S, Cecilia S, Murray L

Year 1/2 J
George G, Tarlaya T, Tyler C

Year 2 S
Annabelle P, Max V, Roy E

Year 3 B
Ellie VW, Tyler C, Dylan H

Year 3 D
Marli W, Sarah M, Riley N

Year 4 JA
Sarmaya T, Lenny G, Bernadette B

Year 4 JP
Angelina H, Jasper Z, Shyann M

Year 5
Claire M, Bradley L, Jessica M

Year 6
Ryles W, Stuart L, Ryle S
I am looking forward to working with the fabulous SRC team this year. This Term the SRC have been working to come up with fundraisers for the school. We have now discussed an important event for this Term. The first event will be for St Patrick’s Day on Tuesday March 17 – The SRC will be selling scrumptious green treats to the students. Money raised will go to the Missions. The SRC are busy working out a second event for Term 1. Watch this space!

This year I will continue spotlighting the SRC each week. I’ll kick this segment off by spotlighting Charlotte Q and Rory H

**SRC SPOTLIGHT**

**Charlotte Q**

When did you commence at St Mary’s? 2013  
What is one of your favourite school memories? Birrigai excursion  
One thing you love about St Mary’s: The staff  
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: Talent Quest  
Favourite book: Harry Potter series  
Interests and hobbies: Singing and Dancing  
What are your dreams for the future? To be a teacher and travel with friends.

**Rory H**

When did you commence at St Mary’s? 2010  
What is one of your favourite school memories? Age Champion in Athletics 2015  
One thing you love about St Mary’s: The resources.  
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: A big fundraiser for our school equipment.  
Favourite book: ‘The Honest Truth’  
Interests and hobbies: Tennis and WWE  
What are your dreams for the future? Criminologist

Sophie O’Hehir
ST MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO FABULOUS 2016

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED

TRIVIA Night

THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY
7:15 P.M. FOR A 7:30 P.M. START

TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE
$10 PER PERSON
OR
$100 PER TABLE
IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
BYOG AND NIBBLES

REGISTER YOUR TABLE GROUP AND CONFIRM WITH PAYMENT TO THE FRONT OFFICE
02) 4474 2817
National Poetry Competition – 2016

The AAEGT (Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented) is holding a national poetry competition as part of Gifted Awareness Week 2016.

The Poem:
Submitted poems should be an expression of what giftedness means to the author. The poem can be any form or text type and should be suited to national publication. This includes, but is not limited to, state, territory and AAEGT websites, social media and written publications.

Age Categories:
1. 8 and under
2. 9 – 12 years
3. 13 – 17 years
4. 18 years and over

Judging Criteria
Poems will be judged on the expression of giftedness and the quality of expression, with recognition of both originality and creativity. State/territory winners will be chosen by the AAEGT affiliated association representing each state/territory. National winners will be chosen by the AAEGT and will be selected from the state and territory winners for each category.

Submission
Poems must be submitted to your AAEGT State/territory affiliation association no later than 8pm on Friday 26th of February, 2016. Details on the form below must be included with the poem submission. One entry only per person. The NSW State association is GFSG Inc. and the contact email for submission is vicepresident@gfsg.org.au.

Announcement of Winners.
Winners will be announced during Gifted Awareness Week 2016 via the AAEGT website and Facebook page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME:</th>
<th>DATE OF BIRTH:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARENT CONTACT DETAILS (if under 18 years):</td>
<td>PHONE NUMBER:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMAIL:</td>
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</table>

Please select the following:

- I certify that the submission is the complete work of the entrant named above.
- I understand judging and submission requirements outlined on this form.
- I agree that my work may be published in association with Gifted Awareness Week events.
- I understand that the judge’s decision is final.

SIGNATURE: | DATE: |
**Chess Club**
Weekly, 2 February – 22 March, Tuesdays 4-6pm
Community Centre, Batemans Bay
Come and try this challenging game. Games for all ages and abilities.
Cost: Free
Bookings Essential
Phone: 02 4474 7442

**Intra 9’s Term 2 competition**
10 week Aussie Rules Football competition for kids u10

@ Gundary Oval, Moruya,
every Tuesday afternoon,
4.30pm – 5.30pm

Competition Starts on 26th April.
4 even teams of up to 12 per side.
Finals-Tuesday 28th June.

Training begins on Tuesday 1st March 4.30pm-5.30pm
Info/Register now [www.BMGiants.com](http://www.BMGiants.com) or
Ph Marty 0478860565

**Community Announcements**

Batemans Bay BMX Club will be hosting our annual National Sign On Day! Come to the track on Saturday 20th of February from 12-3pm.

This is your chance to join our club and one of Australia’s fastest growing sports!

BMX is for everyone, from two-year-olds on mini-wheelers right through to 60+ veterans, we all ride BMX!

National Sign On Day is designed for YOU to come along and try out our exciting sport, free of charge! It’s a fun and exciting day that includes BMX riding, coaching and games.

If you enjoy the day (and we hope you do), you can sign up with our club and join the BMX Australia family!

So what have you got to lose? Join us at the track!

For more information, visit: [www.bmxaustralia.com.au](http://www.bmxaustralia.com.au) or contact Sheridan 0416 036 820

**Broulee Netball Club 2016 Season Launch and Trivia Night**

**WHEN:**
Saturday 20th February
Rego begins at 5:30pm
Trivia will follow starting at 7:00pm

**WHERE:** Tomakin Sports and Social Club

**TICKETS:**
$10 per head or $60 for a table of 10. To purchase tickets or book a table contact Kate Blackmore on 0457 222 265.

This is an all ages event and the funds raised from this night will go towards the purchasing costs of the new Broulee uniforms
BYO Snack Food

Sponsors: Tomakin Sports and Social Club - Tomakin IGA - Service Club Alliance Bank

**MORUYA FC REGO DAY**

INFO DAY: 6TH & 13TH FEB
VENUE: GUNDARY CLUBHOUSE
TIME: 10AM - 2PM
CONTACT: 0488222758

REGISTER AT MYFOOTBALLCLUB.COM.AU
ATTENTION ST MARY'S PRIMARY STUDENTS ON BUS 25

DUE TO CAPACITY BECOMING AVAILABLE ON BUS 22 IN THE AFTERNOON, STUDENTS WHO NEED TO TRAVEL TO CARROLL COLLEGE IN THE AFTERNOON WILL BE MOVED BACK ONTO BUS 22. THIS WILL FREE UP BUS 25 TO BE USED ON ANOTHER SCHOOL SERVICE FROM MORUYA HS.

WE ENVISAGE THIS CHANGE WILL SEE YOU DROPPED AT CARROLL COLLEGE APPROX 10 MINUTES EARLIER THAN YOU ARE CURRENTLY BEING DROPPED OFF BY BUS 25.

THIS CHANGE WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM MONDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2016.

PLEASE PASS THIS NOTE ONTO YOUR PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

IF YOU WISH TO CONTACT PRIORS BUS SERVICE IN RELATION TO THIS CHANGE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE ON 4472 4040.

THANKYOU