Dear Parents

As you will be aware yesterday marked the beginning of the Season of Lent. The children were signed with ash at Mass yesterday. During this Season let us try to pray as a family and attend Mass, do something good for another person and contribute to the Mission appeal. One of the most important things to do during Lent is to reflect on our lives and change things that we can that will bring us closer to God.

Great News

The NSW Government through the Block Grant Authority has announced that $649 000 has been given to the St Mary’s community to upgrade the classrooms at our school. The plans have been in the pipeline for some time and I thank Catrina and Jacqueline Heffernan for their preparation of the funding submission. Work will be conducted in stages to minimise the dislocation of classes. While classrooms are being worked on the children will be located in the hall with appropriate floor covering and partitioning. The total cost of the project is over $900 000 so there is a contribution from the CEO and from our local community (in the form of a loan over the next 10 years).

Swimming

Today the children selected to attend the regional Swimming Carnival will travel to Narooma and we wish them every success in their events.

Tennis

Children from St Mary’s travelled this week to tennis trials in Young. Our children were successful in gaining selection in the zone team to play in Wollongong later this month. Congratulations to William P (Year 6), Abbey C (Year 6) and Max C (Year 2JP).

Thanks

My thanks to Trigger for his work in marking out the new soccer field for the children and for helping with the erection of new goal posts. The junior field will be completed shortly.

Safety Talk

During this week I have visited each class and reminded them of being safe. I showed the children a syringe and reminded them not to touch one under any circumstances. Please do not be alarmed there has not been any sightings of syringes in our school but it is always better to be safe than sorry.

3 Schools Ball

Please book a ticket for the social event of the year. A bus will be travelling form Moruya and that will also need to be noted when making a booking. Please do not worry if you do not have enough names for a table as the committee will be able to help out.

Yoga

A yoga instructor has booked the school hall for classes on a Tuesday afternoon at 4.00pm. All are most welcome. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more details.

School Fees

A reminder that the accounts went home last week. If you have any concerns please contact the front office as soon as possible.

Best wishes, Mick Lowe (Principal)
This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent. The Gospel reading is about Jesus’ temptation in the desert. The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is important. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent. In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks the beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

A message from Archbishop Prowse regarding the Lenten Season.

Dear Friends,

The Lenten season is soon to begin. As we return to our normal routines, let us prepare in our various communities for this season that recalls our Baptism and stresses its penitential dimension. It is a time of conversion as we prepare for the saving events of our salvation at Easter.

Pope Francis, in his Lenten message for this year, highlights that Lent is a time of conversion against globalised indifference to those who suffer. The Pope writes: “Indifference to our neighbour and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience.”

Could I ask all in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn to prepare now to enter into this penitential season. Could I also encourage Project Compassion (Caritas) as a pre-eminent way to respond practically to those who suffer. Having recently returned from Beirut, Lebanon, I have seen first-hand the wonderful practical ways that Caritas helps those who are so fragile in our troubled world. May God bless you, your families, parishes and communities during 2015.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

Ash Wednesday Mass

We attended the Mass for Ash Wednesday yesterday as a whole school. We especially thank Father Dominic, the parishioners, staff and students for celebrating this Mass with us. Thank you to Grace R, Angus L, Madeleine W and Harry E for reading so reverently and to the students who participated in the Prayers of the Faithful. It was the Kinders first time to attend Mass with the school and they were accompanied by their buddies who looked after them so well during Mass. Thank you Year 6 students.

A Reminder of Sacramental Dates for this Year

Information Session for all Sacraments 3rd March 2015 3.15pm at St Bernard’s Batemans Bay or 5 March 2015 at Sacred Heart Church Moruya.

Confirmation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 March 2015</td>
<td>3.15pm-3.45pm</td>
<td>Batemans Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 March 2015</td>
<td>3.15pm-3.45pm</td>
<td>Moruya</td>
</tr>
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Retreat Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 May 2015</td>
<td>At Carroll College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 May 2015</td>
<td>5pm Mass Carroll College</td>
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Reconciliation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>3.15pm-3.45pm</td>
<td>Batemans Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>3.15pm-3.45pm</td>
<td>Moruya</td>
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Eucharist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>3.15pm-3.45pm</td>
<td>Batemans Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>3.15pm-3.45pm</td>
<td>Moruya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Retreat Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TBA Week 4</td>
<td>(First two weeks of August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/15 November</td>
<td>At normal mass times</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued over page ...
Religion News continued

Eucharist
Prayer  24 March  3.15pm-3.45pm Batemans Bay
       26 March  3.15pm-3.45pm Moruya
Retreat Day  TBA Week 4  (Last week of October)
Celebration  14/15 November  At normal mass times

We continue to pray for peace in our world.
Have a safe and happy weekend
Marg Croese

Shrove Tuesday
Welcome Family Fun Night:
All families are invited to participate in the Family Fun Night picnic in the park. On behalf of the School Community we would like to welcome our new and continuing families to the 2015 school year. The picnic will be held during Fallow Week (family togetherness week) on Thursday 12 March at Riverside Park from 4:30pm–6:30pm. Please bring your own blanket, picnic dinner and soft drinks/water, plus your favourite family game such as cricket, frisbee etc. We will have parachute games, volleyball, giant chess and a few other fun surprises. Grandparents are more than welcome to join us. So come and join us one and all for a fantastic fun filled family evening.

Skoolbag App:
Some parents have indicated that they are experiencing difficulty with the Skoolbag App. If you have recently downloaded the software update iOS 8.1.3, the Skoolbag technicians have recommended that you turn your device off completely for a good five minutes and then turn back on. If this does not rectify the situation then please reinstall the App.

Lunch Box Ideas:
The three bowl approach: fill one bowl with fruit, one with treats and one with dairy (such as tubs of yoghurt or cheese sticks). Let your children make their own lunches by selecting one item from each bowl. Just add a sandwich, a bottle of water and lunch is ready.

Wishing God’s Best for you ...
Catrina Niddrie

Great reasons for kids and adults to be active:
- boosts confidence
- improves fitness
- makes bones and muscles stronger
- improves posture
- helps maintain a healthy weight
- lowers the risk of heart disease
- reduces stress
- improves sleep
- reduces the risk of cancer
- improves self confidence
- teaches you new skills
- develops better motor skills
- makes a person happier with their body
- lower risk of disease including heart disease and cancer later in life.
Week 4 Class Awards

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!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year KCK</th>
<th>Year KW</th>
<th>Year 1H</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 2J</th>
<th>Year 2JP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn B-C</td>
<td>Baley D</td>
<td>Lucian M</td>
<td>Isaac B</td>
<td>Ryley B-C</td>
<td>Jake V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler C</td>
<td>Brooke S</td>
<td>Lilly R</td>
<td>Claudia B</td>
<td>Avalon H</td>
<td>Scarlett W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecilia S</td>
<td>Zarah H</td>
<td>Leila S</td>
<td>Ryan C</td>
<td>Dylan H</td>
<td>Marissa M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth B</td>
<td></td>
<td>Zoey S</td>
<td>Mikayla C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3S</th>
<th>Year 3D</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monique B</td>
<td>Kara H</td>
<td>Nyeka B</td>
<td>Jaydnz M</td>
<td>Daniel M</td>
<td>Zac W (year 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameron M</td>
<td>Matthew B</td>
<td>Chloe C</td>
<td>Abigail B</td>
<td>Bailey M</td>
<td>Nathaniel T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max G</td>
<td>Emma P</td>
<td>Angus L</td>
<td>Michala P</td>
<td>Joseph G</td>
<td>(year 5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mini Vinnies

This year we are trialling Mini Vinnies at St Mary’s.

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 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.

I will be running the Mini Vinnies group each Friday at lunch time. There will be one representative from each class from Years 3-6 plus our Christian Leader. More information to follow next week.

Sophie O’Hehir
Year 3 sketch historical buildings in Moruya.
**Library**

The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge is fast approaching once again! This challenge is open to all students in Kindergarten to Year 9 and aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. Students have already received their reading log and are encouraged to start documenting the books they are reading. Students in Kinder to Year 2 are required to read 30 books, 25 listed books and 5 of their own choice. Students in Year 3-6 are required to read 20 books, 15 listed books and 5 of their choice.

Happy reading!
Mrs Jessica Afflick

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**SRC News**

This Term the SRC have been working hard each Thursday to come up with fundraisers for the school. We have now discussed two important events for this Term.

The first event will be for **St Patrick’s Day** on Tuesday March 17 – The SRC will be selling YUMMY green treats to the students. Money raised will go to the Missions. The SRC would also like to hold a green parade and have prizes for the best green costume.

The second event for the term is raising money for the **Marymead** Organisation. Marymead is a well-known and highly respected not for profit organisation who has been delivering a range of innovative support services to Canberra’s children, young people and families for almost 50 years and delivers a range of programs throughout the broader Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and NSW. Many of the families they support experience many life challenges. We would love to support this foundation by having a Crazy Hair day.

Both fundraisers are still in the planning process. We will have dates and information to you in the next couple of weeks! Thanks to the fantastic SRC who meet with me each Thursday lunch to eagerly discuss their ideas to support the school.

**Please remember if you have any ideas for the school please contact one of the SRC reps from Years 3-6 or see myself on the playground.**

Year 3 – Charlotte W, Matilda T, Austin P, Jessica T  
Year 4 – Claire M, Charlee P  
Year 5 – Makaylah C, Max M  

Sophie O’Hehir and the SRC
Illawarra Dragons Visit

Players from the St George Illawarra Dragons came to the school on Tuesday to talk to the children in the Performing Arts Centre. The players included Dan Hunt, Charly Runciman, Will Matthews and NRL Game Development Officer Matt Cross.

The players were promoting the importance of a healthy lifestyle and general well being, providing information about nutrition and being active. Some lucky children were chosen to take on the players and Mr Harnett in a game of Celebrity Heads which was a highlight of the talk.
I know it's February, but summer will soon be over and it's time to start thinking about Winter Sports! You could play Soccer or Rugby every weekend but how much fun would it be to race down a mountain at high speed on snow skis?

We are recruiting competitors for the 2015 St Mary’s Snow Ski Team.

After we had such a successful event in 2014, the plan this year is to enter more than one team in two events:
1. The Alpine Event (downhill through the flags) on Thursday 30 July at Perisher
2. The Ski X (downhill on a marked race track) on Friday 31 July at Perisher

We are desperate for some more keen skiers from Year 5 and 6 to make up a full Division 4 team, and are keen to accept more competitors from Kinder through Year 4 for our Division 5 team.

Anyone who is interested or wants more information please contact Jake Harris on 44744567 or the school office.

St Mary’s Swimming Carnival 2015
Dear Parents,
Our Junior Boy Champion for 2015 is Bradley L. Congratulations Bradley on your wonderful performances on the day. (An error was made in last week’s newsletter.)

Age Champions:
Congratulations to the following 2015 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>Felicity L</td>
<td>Michala P</td>
<td>Gemma M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Boy</td>
<td>11 Years Boys</td>
<td>Senior Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley L</td>
<td>Ryle S</td>
<td>Josh C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sam H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Justin Bateman, Sports Coordinator

Congratulations William!
In early October William P (Year 6) tried out for the Coerver Performance Academy. 50 boys from the ACT and surrounding areas attended the trail, and William was selected in the 18 strong U/12 squad. From October to end of January William has trained 3 days a week in the ACT. Comprising 100hrs of scheduled training as well as additional hours of programmed home training. The Performance Academy concluded with a four day International Camp in the ACT, which 40 U/12 players from Academies from all over Australia and NZ attended. William also got to do sessions with coaches from Japan, USA and UK, the highlight for William was meeting and doing sessions with Chelsea-great Charlie Cooke. From the 40 U/12 boys a team is selected to do a 2 week tour of Osaka Japan, this comprises of training and playing against Coerver Japan teams as well as junior J-League teams, sightseeing and visiting the biggest soccer shop in Japan (six stories of soccer gear!)

We would like to congratulate William on being selected for the tour in late September!
Information Sheet: Education Reconnect – ACU Units: Canberra Campus - 2015

Are you interested in a career in Business, Nursing & Paramedicine, Social Work, or, Education?
Are you aged between 18-34 years of age?
Undertake university study if you come from Young, Queanbeyan, Yass, Bega, Moruya, Moss Vale, Cooma, Goulburn, Broulee or Pambula and surrounding districts
Most course units are held on weekends and all are financially supported.

How does Education Reconnect Work?
Intensive weekends at the Canberra Campus or fully online
An initial Academic Skills Weekend will set you up for success and you will obtain online study support from our Academic Skills Advisor for the semester
Student Mentors are allocated to help you each step of the way
Resources – All textbooks are provided free
HECS/HELP free
Units are all FIRST Year University units and you can get Recognised Prior Learning (RPL) at other universities.
You can apply for Direct Entry to ACU on completion of these units.

Information Session
Wednesday February 25th
7pm-8pm in the Carroll College Resource Centre
Program: Intensive Weekends – Compulsory Attendance
@ACU Canberra Campus. Intensive Study Skills Weekend & Introduction to Unit. 10.00 – 4.30
Morning Tea and Lunch provided
Accommodation at AIS provided on the Saturday Night.

Administration Fee: $200 – to be refunded on completion of unit, otherwise non-refundable.
BATEMANS BAY JUNIOR BOARS RUGBY UNION

Batemans Bay Junior Boars Rugby Union Club is now taking registrations for the 2015 competition. Junior Teams aged from Under 9, will be playing in the ACT Junior competition on a Saturday, playing both home and away games. Training is held at Hanging Rock. Registration costs are $90. Program is fully supported by ACT Brumbies.

For further information, [https://www.facebook.com/bayboarsjuniors](https://www.facebook.com/bayboarsjuniors) or contact Ronnie: 0408247644 or Kylie 0428743471 or email: juniorboars@gmail.com

Suntime YOGA

Suntime YOGA with Ros Cron & Nicole Gray are bringing yoga classes to the St Mary's Performing Arts Hall Tuesdays 4pm to 5.30pm commencing 24.2.15. $15. Ros is Iyenga Yoga Trained with many years of teaching within the Yoga and Fitness Industry. Nicole has practiced yoga for over 37 years and has trained in India in traditional Hatha Yoga. Together they bring a great mix of traditional and contemporary yoga suitable for all levels. Mats are provided or bring your own. Their classes are designed to build a healthy balance of flexibility, strength, agility and grace, bringing your body, mind and life back into harmony. For enquiries please call Nicole 0407185064 or Ros 0424547080 or email: nikgray01@bigpond.com

The Art Cubby

Create, Learn, have Fun

ART for Kidz AFTER SCHOOL

For student’s 6 – 12 years old

Where: Art Central – Moruya

When: Wednesdays

Time: 3.30-5.00pm

Kim Cooke
44737952

For program details, venue & cost please contact
**FREE**

come and try BMX racing

Saturday February 21st

bring your bike and helmet

At 1pm

Batemans Bay BMX Club
Calga Drive Batemans Bay
next to the bay high

must wear long pants long sleeve shirt and secure shoes

email details to: batemansbaybmx@live.com.au or call: 0416362155 for more info

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**Broulee Netball Club Registrations**

Sunday, 22nd February, 10am-12noon and
Monday, 23rd February, 3:30-5pm
At Captain Oldrey Park Clubrooms

**Prices:**
- 6-10 year olds - $75
- 11-17 year olds - $105
- 18+ year olds - $135

Shirts - $22

Payment needed with registration: Cash, Cheque made out to Broulee Netball Club or bring your phone along to direct deposit on the day.

*No late registrations please.*

*Coaches, managers, committee members and umpires needed.*

For more details, contact Anne Jones on 0408 622254 (AH).

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We’re STANDING TALL in 2015

STAND WITH US!

Broulee-Moruya Giants
Australian Football Club

**CONTACT US NOW**

**TRAINING**

- Mondays: Captain Oldrey Park, Broulee, from 4pm
- Thursdays: Gundary Oval, Moruya from 4pm

Registration Day, First Training
- Monday 2 March 2015, Captain Oldrey Park

Home Games Saturdays, Gundary Oval Moruya

**CONTACT**

Marty Jones: 0478 605 645
bmaussierules@gmail.com

 Register online at www.bmgiants.com