Dear Parents

The mother of one of our Year 6 children Lisa Beauchamp passed away last Sunday after a long and difficult battle with cancer. As a school community we ask for your prayers for the family, that God will hold them in the palm of his hand over the coming weeks and months ahead. The funeral was held this morning at 10.00am. May she rest in peace.

Pentecost Sunday
This Sunday we have invited all families to come along to Mass at 10.00am. Many of the children will be involved in various ministries for the Mass. It is very important that the Year 6 children receiving Confirmation are present at the Mass.

Date Changes
The Year 5/6 rugby team making the finals of a knock out competition has meant some changes to the events calendar. Firstly the athletics carnival has been moved to Thursday June 4. This was the night of the movie night at school. We have moved the movie night to Thursday June 11 in the performing arts centre. The Literacy and Numeracy Night will now be held on Tuesday 16 June at 6.30 in the Performing Arts Centre.

River of Arts
It was great to see the display of the children’s art work last Saturday at the River of Arts Festival. The children in the choir sang beautifully before an appreciative crowd. My thanks to the staff and parents who attended and helped with the set-up of the stall.

Working Bee
There are a number of smaller jobs that need to be done and we shall hold a working bee on the last Saturday of the term June 27 from 10 am – 12.00 finishing with a BBQ and drinks. Some of the jobs include: cleaning drains, repairs to fencing, cleaning up garden beds, removing old goal posts and having a general tidy up of the grounds. All are welcome to come along and lend a hand.

School Photographs
Envelopes will be sent home today for the school photographs that will take place on Tuesday June 2. Winter school uniforms are to be worn on the day.

Bike-a-thon
Our big fund raiser for the year the Bike-a-thon is happening on Thursday June 18. The sponsorship sheets will be sent home this week and we encourage the children to find some sponsors willing to donate to the bike-a-thon. All money raised will go towards the purchase of additional iPads for the children.

Confirmation
On Sunday 31 May we shall celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 5.00pm at Carroll College. All members of the school community are most welcome to come along and support the children.

Grandparents Day
On Friday June 5 we shall celebrate Grandparents Day at St Mary’s. We shall begin with Mass at 9.15am followed by morning tea and open classrooms.

Best wishes
Mick Lowe, Principal
Confirmation Retreat Day
We enjoyed a day of reflection, friendship and sharing with each other last Friday at Carroll College where the students in Year 6 joined with St Bernard’s students to consolidate their knowledge of the Sacrament of Confirmation. We especially thank Mrs Belle Barling the REC at Carroll College who spent so much time organising the day with some of her Year 9 students. The students from Carroll College were fantastic leaders in the various groups, teaching the students about modern day heroes (saints), helping them to write Scripture quotes on stones, writing their own Prayers of the Faithful and painting banners which will be used in the Confirmation Mass. The day was filled with lots of fun and times of contemplation as the students read their special letters from their parents sharing their hopes and dreams for them. A quote from the magazine “Australian Catholics” describes this Sacrament and says ‘Confirmation is our chance to make our own choice to follow God. It’s where we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and become fully part of the Catholic community’. The article also gives one person’s account of making their Confirmation: ‘After being confirmed I felt a type of peace and I knew that God’s presence was truly in my heart. It was this feeling of being ‘light’. I’ve heard some people say that having an encounter with Jesus in your life will give you this feeling as if you’re ‘floating on clouds’, and although I knew God was real I’d never experienced that feeling in my life until my confirmation. It was a peace, a reassurance that everything would be alright, and that I was truly a loved child of God’. Please keep these students in your prayers as they prepare for this Sacrament: Cooper B, Samuel H, Kobie N, Ignatius R, Hugh C, Harrison C, Archie H, Gemma M, Lily G, Emily S, Jessica I, Abbey C, Alana S and Will P. The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated at Carroll College next Sunday 31 May at 5pm.

School/Parish Mass
A reminder that all families and friends are most welcome to join us this Sunday 24 May at the 10am Mass. This Mass celebrates the Feast of Pentecost, the birthday of our church. Year 6 students who are making their Confirmation will be presented to the parish, giving them a card to ask parishioners to pray for them. Please join us on Sunday when students from different classes will take part in leading the Mass.

Reconciliation Week
Next week is Reconciliation Week. Reconciliation involves building positive, respectful relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the benefit of all Australians. We will celebrate Reconciliation Week with a special focus assembly next Friday 29 May at 9am in the PAC. Mrs Devonald and her Year 3 students will present this liturgy as a tribute to Indigenous Australians. All families, friends and parishioners are most welcome to join us in the PAC.

Prayers
It is with much sadness that we ask for prayers for the family of Reilly Beauchamp in Year 6. Reilly’s mum Lisa died in hospital last Sunday after a long illness. We send our deepest sympathy and prayers to Reilly, his dad John and sisters Teagan and Tamara.

May Lisa rest in peace.

Wishing all families a safe and happy week
Marg Croese
Religious Education Coordinator
River of Arts Festival: Thank you to all the families who came along and visited our school stall at the River of Arts Festival. Not only did the stall look awesome filled with colourful and creative student artwork, but the school choir was a standout! Congratulations to all the students in the choir. All your hard work and practice paid off as your singing delighted the audience. Well done to Mrs Croese and Mrs Devonald for the time and energy they put into the choir. We are very blessed to have such talented teachers and students at St Mary’s.

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Numeracy Intervention Program (NIP): Semester One Program for NIP will begin to wind up over the next couple of weeks. Here is a breakdown of what will take place before the end of term.

- **Week 6**: Last lessons
- **Week 7**: Classroom observations
- **Week 8**: Post Assessment Tasks
- **Week 9/10**: Report Writing

COSA: We welcomed Steve Carter from the CEO, this week, who visited our school for two days and assisted us with our COSA project. We continued to look at the importance of Writing and using IT as a motivational tool to enhance the wonderful writing that students at St Mary’s do. It has been a worthwhile two days and we thank Steve for his input and continued support of our staff and school community.

ICAS Skills Test: Our next ICAS test is the Science Competition. Students will undertake this test on Wednesday 3 June.

Uniform Working Party: Our next meeting is next Wednesday 27th May at 2pm in the boardroom. All parents are welcome.

Sport: Congratulations to our Cross Country team on a wonderful effort and representing our school to the best of your ability. We are proud of you all! Congratulations to the 5/6 Netball teams who participated in the School Cup at Broulee today. By all reports your behaviour and sportsmanship were wonderful!

Maths problem of the week!!!
There are 4 separate large boxes and inside each large box there are three separate small boxes and inside each of these small boxes there are 2 separate smaller boxes. How many boxes, counting all sizes, are there? Hint. Draw a picture.
Last week’s answer: 12 stops. 1+2+3+4 ect = 78 passengers. Congratulations Gemma M!
Week 5 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!

Kinder CK
Kade D

Kinder W
Lorelai B, Jack V, Cooper C

Year 1H
Bridie I, Millie K, Zac VW

Year 1O
Isaac B, Mia C, Monique D

Year 2JP
Will D, Kaitlyn P, Marli W

Year 2J
Koby D, Avalon H, Dylan H

Year 3D
Emma P, Sarmaya T, Xian F, Harry E

Year 3S
Emily B, Jared S, Shyann M

Year 4
Chloe C, George T, Josiah M

Year 5
Max M, Jaymz M, Michala P, Madeline H

Year 6
Amelia P, Lily G, Abbie C

Library
Josh C
SRC NEWS

IDEAS BOX

Don’t forget an ‘Ideas box’ is kept in Miss O’Hehir’s new room (hall) and is open for any student to write their ideas for the SRC to discuss at our Thursday meetings. You might see your idea on St Mary’s Calendar!!

SRC IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Declan C – Howard Vice Captain
When did you commence at St Mary’s?: 2009
What is one of your favourite school memories?: My sporting memories. For example when I play basketball.
One thing you love about St Mary’s: The basketball courts
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: to have a St Mary’s basketball team.
Favourite book: Danny the Champion
Interests and hobbies: Basketball
What are your dreams for the future?: NBA basketball player

Bree M – Vice School Captain
When did you commence at St Mary’s?: Year 3, 2012
What is one of your favourite school memories?: Year 5 and 6 camp at Sydney
One thing you love about St Mary’s: All of my friends
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: Some fun things that make everyone smile
Favourite book: Harry Potter series
Interests and hobbies: Netball, dance and craft
What are your dreams for the future?: To travel the world

Jessica T – Year 3 Representative
When did you commence at St Mary’s?: 2012
What is one of your favourite school memories?: First day at school
One thing you love about St Mary’s: My kind friends and lovely teachers
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: More school mufti days
Favourite book: Dork Diaries
Interests and hobbies: Singing, reading and dancing
What are your dreams for the future?: To be a famous singer

DON’T FORGET!

Pirate Day: Friday 12 June (Wk 8)

Can you help Mini Vinnies?

Last week Jan Ganderton, from St Vincent De Paul, attended our Mini Vinnies meeting. Jan explained that Big Vinnies are in need of blankets, sheets, sleeping bags or any sleeping item. Mini Vinnies are asking for anyone to donate any blankets that are no longer needed in your household. These blankets could help those in need that are less fortunate than all of us. Please bring into school and leave with Miss O’Hehir in the Year 1 classroom (hall). Mini Vinnies are going to design posters to place around the school asking for assistance with this.

Thanks for your cooperation,
Mini Vinnies & Sophie O’Hehir

SOPHIE O’HEHIR
**MOVIE NIGHT**

Due to the School Athletics Carnival being moved to Thursday 4th June, we have decided to move the movie night to the 11th June. This ensures that parents do not have to go to two school events on the one day.

Thank you to the few families that returned their forms—if this new date does not suit you we will return your money.

Please put Thursday 11th June in your diary for a family night out.

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**The Club**

Weeks 5 & 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Kinder, Yr 1 &amp; Yr 2</th>
<th>Yr 3, Yr 4, Yr 5 &amp; Yr 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When</td>
<td>Tuesday: First Break</td>
<td>Thursday: First Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where</td>
<td>Meet near the garden beds</td>
<td>Meet near the garden beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What</td>
<td>Origami Lab: Find a design you like, choose some paper and work through the instructions to make your own piece of origami.</td>
<td>Rouge Vogue: Do you have an eye for design? You are invited to St Mary’s Design School. Come along and draw up your design and inspire the future of fashion design!</td>
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**IMPORTANT**

Limited places! 20 students only. Sign up before Friday.

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**Carroll College enrolment reminder**

Carroll College have asked that we remind parents of year 6 children that enrolments close Friday 29 May. If you would like your child to attend Carroll College in 2016 please lodge enrolment forms asap.

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**Sssssshhhhhhhhhh, top secret .....**