Dear Parents

I realise that this week has been quite difficult for a number of families in Moruya with the passing of Billy Irwin last weekend. Please accept our prayers and thoughts at this tragic loss of life. The funeral will take place this Friday in the Sacred Heart church at 12.00 noon. Part of the playground will be available for parking.

Fallow Week
It is hard to believe that next week is Week 7 and as such we have a fallow or family week. During this week we try to spend more time with our families and do not have homework or meetings after school. Next week is also Catholic Schools Week and we shall celebrate this week with a three schools Mass next Wednesday at 10.00am (a permission note was sent home this week) and parents and friends are most welcome to attend. On Thursday afternoon all families are invited to Riverside Park for a picnic. Please come along from 4.30pm.

Community Council Report
The first Community Council meeting was held on Tuesday evening and the following parents have accepted positions on the executive of the Community Council:

Chair: Karen Motyka
Deputy Chair: Jodie Hodgetts
Minutes Secretary: Jessica Afflick
Treasurer: Rita Cremerius
Uniform: Kellie Cairney and Catrina Niddrie
Building and Maintenance: Mick Lowe
Parent Representatives: Marie Traynor and Kathryn Harris

Best wishes
Mick Lowe, Principal

Week 7 — Term 1
Weekend Masses
Moruya: Vigil Mass – Saturday 6pm
Tuross: ‘The Pines’ - Sunday 6am
Moruya: Sunday – 10am

Friday 6 March
Year 4 Mass
Learning Technology Inservice (Mr Ward & Mr Harpley)

Monday 9 March
Awards Assembly, PAC Catholic Schools Combined Concert Band Performance, 10.45-11.20am PAC
Winter Sports Trials—Qbyn AFL Clinic Stage 2, 12pm

Wednesday 11 March
Combined Catholic Schools Mass, 10am at Carroll College
Lunch at Carroll College
Social Justice Food Stalls: $1 items

Thursday 12 March
FAMILY PICNIC at 4.30pm Riverside Park
Aboriginal Contact Mtg (Mrs Boyenga & Mrs Hadley)
Parent Child Sacramental Session, 3.15pm at the Church

Birthdays
Happy Birthday to the following students who will celebrate their birthdays in the coming week:

Zac V
Lacey B
Lily G
Cecilia S

Just For Fun
Two budgies were standing on a perch.
One said to the other, “Can you smell fish?”
Return to Me with Your Whole Heart

From the first day of Lent, the Ash Wednesday readings make God's call to us clear: "Return to me with your whole heart" (Joel 2:12 NAB). It is an invitation from God to each one of us - to me in a personal, individual way. God invites me to drop the defences that I hold up between myself and God. God wants us to realise that our standards, our ways of judging and loving, are very different from God's way, and so much smaller. God loves each one of us. For an entire Lenten season, for an entire lifetime, God loves each one of us. "A clean heart create for me, God," Psalm 51:12 NAB offers. "Give me back the joy of your salvation." That is exactly what our loving God wants to give us, the joy of salvation. This is the invitation of each day of Lent. Today is the day to accept it. (Andy Alexander, SJ).

Year 3S Focus Assembly

We thank Mrs Stephen and her Year 3 class for leading us in their beautiful prayer celebration last Friday. The theme for the liturgy was Lent and the children spent the week preparing, by baking for the residents of the Illawarra Retirement Village and doing kind deeds for others. The students were very enthusiastic as they read from the Bible and showed us ways to become better people during Lent by the way we treat others. They concluded the prayer service by singing a beautiful song, “Christ My Light”.

Lent

Spend a few minutes in prayer to the God who is close to you. Ponder the reality of God’s presence and contemplate the thought that God has something for you – a plan that is as unique as you are. Don’t worry about what that plan is, nor about what you are to do. Your role is simple: sit in God’s presence and wait for him. Remain silently in God’s presence for as long as you feel inclined, or opportunity will allow. Then bring before God any sincere prayers of intercession that you have. Instead of asking God to do things for you, ask that he might achieve whatever he wishes through you. Finish by praying the great yet simple prayer of praise to the Blessed Trinity: Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Prayers ...

We pray especially for the Irwin Family, for Julie and Jim, parents of Billy who died so suddenly on the weekend. We ask God to hold them close to his loving heart.

Our prayers are also for Mrs Matthews and her family. Mrs Matthews has been in Sydney with her mother who has been very ill in hospital. We pray for all those we know and love who are ill. Amen.

Have a safe and happy weekend
Marg Croese
Religious Education Coordinator
PICNIC IN THE PARK
THURSDAY 12 MARCH

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.

Uniform Orders: The sport shirts that were on back-order have arrived at Hip Pocket Work Wear. All orders are ready for collection.

Catholic Schools Combined Concert Band: On Monday 9 March, students from St Mary’s, St Bernard’s and Carroll College will host a concert for all our students in the Hall from 10:45am - 11:20am. All parents, family and friends are welcome to attend. This concert is a very exciting prospect for our talented musical students and we are extremely lucky and thankful for the dedication of Mrs Ros Maher from Carroll College who has organised the band, practices and performances. What a special opportunity for our K-12 Pathways as we are the only pathways schools in our diocese that offers this opportunity to all it’s students. Congratulations Ros and team!

Catholic Schools Week Combined School Mass: On Wednesday 11 March the whole school will attend Mass at Carroll College. All our students will be at Carroll College for lunch. We are asking parents to pack their child’s sandwich for the day in a brown/white paper bag with their name and class clearly written on it. Please ensure your child’s name on their drink bottle is also clearly marked. Thanking you in advance for your assistance with this.

Wishing God’s best for you,
Catrina Niddrie
Assistant Principal

Good luck Alex!

This weekend, Alex C (Year 3S) will be representing St Marys at the Thredbo Interschools downhill mountain-biking competition.

Good luck from all of your friends at St Marys Alex! We can’t wait for a full report next week!
MUFFINS

MINI CALIPPOS

FRUIT POPPERS

JELLY CUPS

ALL FOR $1 EACH

Catholic Schools Week Combined Mass at Carroll College

CARROLL COLLEGE CANTEEN WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR MORNING TEA!
Author of the month!
The Author of the Month for March is Alison Lester. Alison Lester is one of Australia’s most beloved children’s authors and illustrators. She has published over 25 children’s picture books and 2 young adult novels. In 2005 Alison won the CBCA Picture Book of the Year for her children’s book, Are We There Yet?: A Journey around Australia.

Alison grew up on a farm in country Victoria and has always loved horse riding and reading. Her picture books mix imaginary worlds with everyday life, encouraging children to believe in themselves and celebrate the differences that make them special.

We have many of Alison’s books in our library, so come and check some out this month.

Happy reading!
Mrs Afflick

Still need a library bag for your child? Check out dinkleboo.com.au. They have a great range of personalised library bags and this week only they are offering 50% off! Use the code BAGMAR15 until 9 March.

Congratulations

Week 6 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!
Volunteering in the school canteen

Do you have some spare time and would you like to become a canteen helper?
Lending a hand will enable you to experience the awesome environment your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews are a part of. With your continued support we can provide the school community with a quality canteen service, offering fresh and healthy foods at reasonable prices. We are striving to serve fresh and homemade goods, which has resulted in more children coming to the canteen.

The canteen is open on Fridays at lunch and recess. Ideally we need two to three helpers every Friday. You can volunteer as little or as much as you like and it’s a great way to get to know other parents within the school. If you are able to assist, please phone the school on 4474 2817 to include your name on the roster. You can also email me directly at shellie.butler@cg.catholic.edu.au. Looking forward to sharing a cuppa, chat and most definitely a laugh at the St Mary’s Canteen.

Thanking you in advance,
Shellie Butler

Special Lunch Day

“HOT DIGGETY DOG”
Thursday 26 March 2015
Meal Deal

Hot Dog, Fruit Juice Popper and a surprise treat for the special price of only $5.00.
Extra Hot Dogs $2.50

Information regarding this offer will be forwarded home in the near future.
Mini Vinnies!

Planning is under way for our St Mary’s Mini Vinnies group. Mini Vinnies students get together to help those in need within their school, local or international community. Class teachers have nominated a representative from each class in Years 3-6 that will work with me. Congratulations to the following people who have been selected.

Year 3D – Harry E  
Year 3S – Monique B  
Year 4 – Lisa H  
Year 5 – Nathanial T  
Year 6 – Emily S & Lily G  
Christian Leader – Hugh C

We briefly met on Tuesday to discuss what the group will be involved in and how our meetings will run. Meeting number 1 will be held on Friday March 6 - Miss O’Hehir’s classroom at 1:35pm. Our first initiative is to make Easter cards for the elderly and sick. I am looking forward to working with our enthusiastic students this year.

Sophie O’Hehir

St Patrick’s Day Celebrations!

The SRC will be running the annual green food stall on THURSDAY 19 MARCH for St Patrick’s Day. The day will be celebrated two days later due to other events happening on March 17 and 18. The SRC will be selling green cakes, slices, lollies, jelly and lots more! The SRC ask that you come dressed in green – we will be judging the best outfits in each class – prizes will be awarded! Start planning your costume. A gold coin donation is required on the day. All money raised will go to the Mission Caritas. [http://www.caritas.org.au/about](http://www.caritas.org.au/about)

Another fabulous idea that came up in our last SRC meeting was a suggestion box in each classroom. Each class can write ideas that they wish to inform the SRC. The SRC will then bring their class box to the meeting each week to discuss and we will try our very best to make it happen!

Sophie O’Hehir and the SRC

COMBINED CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BALL

Thank you to everyone who has indicated that they will be coming to the Combined Schools Ball to be held on Saturday 21 Mach (only a few weeks away!). Could all ticket payments please be made as soon as possible as we are fast approaching the night and we will be starting to finalise numbers very soon.

There is still plenty of space available for more people to attend, so we would like to once again encourage everyone to come a long!

Raffle tickets were sent home this week, thank you to all of our sponsors (especially our very own Mick Lowe and Gilbo Family for prizes). Proceeds from this raffle will be split between our three schools. Please return these tickets sold or unsold as soon as possible. Winners will be drawn on the night of the Ball.

There are still a few seats left on the bus, if you would like to book a place please contact the office. Pay as you get on.

We are looking forward to a fun night.

Events Working Party - Brooke Wood
Clean Up Australia Day
SOUTH COAST JUNIOR RUGBY UNION

TWILIGHT MINI RUGBY

When: Friday nights 5.30pm to 6.30pm
Where: Hanging Rock, Batemans Bay & Captain Oldrey Park, Broulee
Ages: 4 years to 11 years (age as at 1/1/15)
Dates: Friday 20 March to Friday 26 June (excluding school holidays)
Cost: $45 per child

Mini & Walla Rugby - are modified games for younger players, are safe to play yet still challenging. They incorporate altered aspects of adult Rugby laws, such as the size of the ball, the playing area, the length of games, and the number of players on the field. Walla Rugby U7 is non-tackle.

Who is able to play - Usually they will be young people who are new to Rugby, and often those who like the game but are not attracted by traditional Rugby competitions.

Registration - is online via this link:
Alternatively, come along on the first night and we will assist you with registration. All parents are encouraged to assist and the weekly barbecues provide a great way to meet new friends and feed the family!

Questions and Enquiries:
President - Ronnie Collier 0408 247 644
Secretary - Karyn Starmer 0427 522 227

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**NSW Fisheries**

**kids fishing workshops**

The workshops are run under NSW Government safety guidelines with trained staff and volunteers. The kids have a great time learning about safe, sustainable fishing as well as getting fishing gear to take home.

The next workshop is at Tuross Heads on April 14th, for ages 8-14 years.

Bookings are essential.

Stephen Thurstan
Education Officer, Southern Region
NSW Department of Primary Industries
E: stephen.thurstan@dpi.nsw.gov.au
T: 02 4220 8484