Dear Families

Last Sunday afternoon was a wonderful celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation held at Carroll College. The children represented their families and their school with great dignity and we can be very proud of each and every one of them. My thanks to all involved and in particular to the students and staff at Carroll College for the wonderful music and venue.

Enrolments
Please be aware that if you know of families wishing to seek enrolment in Kindergarten 2016 they need to present their enrolment forms to the front office as soon as possible. We would love to have two classes for Kindergarten next year and we are very close to the mark at this time.

Bike – a – thon
I hope the children are getting lots of sponsors for our upcoming fundraiser. As an incentive we are allocating a raffle ticket to each child for every $5 (or part there of) collected for the bike-a-thon. The tickets will all go into the draw for some wonderful prizes. The first prize is an excellent prize and will be announced to the children during next week. All monies raised will go to support the purchase of hardware for our IT program.

Morning Drop Off
In the morning drop off inside the school gates outside the hall it would be very much appreciated if parents did not get out of the car and just used this area as a kiss and go zone. This will assist with the flow of traffic and the safety of our children.

Grandparents’ day
Invitations have gone home with the children to invite grandparents to school this Friday. The morning will begin with Mass in the hall. This will be followed by classroom visits by the visitors and a morning tea will be offered at 11.00am. The families of children in Year 5 have been asked to provide a plate for morning tea.

Literacy and Numeracy Night
On Tuesday June 16 we shall host a literacy and numeracy night for parents in the school hall. This night will provide parents with information and skills to better assist their child with reading, writing and maths. The evening will begin with an information session by Mrs Jo Matthews on the way we can support early readers. The parents can then divide into two groups and visit the various stalls to gain information about literacy and numeracy. After 20 mins we shall have a short break and then swap to visit the stalls not seen in the first session. The evening will begin at 6.30pm in the Performing Arts Centre.

Best wishes
Mick Lowe, Principal
Gospel for this Sunday
This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. The Gospel for today reminds us that the Eucharist is a memorial of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. We believe that Jesus is truly present to us in bread and wine. Each time we celebrate this sacrament, we prepare for the Kingdom of God. This celebration, as the Second Vatican Council taught us, is the source and summit of the Christian life. Thanks to the Eucharist, the love that springs up within us becomes deeper and grows stronger. Eucharistic worship is therefore precisely the expression of that love which is the true and deepest characteristic of the Christian vocation. This worship springs from the love and serves the love to which we are all called in Jesus Christ. We must also become sensitive to all human suffering and misery and to all injustice and wrong. Let us learn to discover the truth about our inner self that becomes the dwelling place of God in the Eucharist. Christ comes into the hearts of our brothers and sisters.

Confirmation Mass
The celebration of the Confirmation Mass for our Year 6 students was a most beautiful and moving liturgy last Sunday night at Carroll College. Our Year 6 students came fully prepared thanks to the enormous amount of work done by Mr Bateman and our Year 6 parents. The Confirmation was presided over by Fr Tony Percy who addressed the students individually making them all feel very special. He encouraged families to walk with their children on their journey of faith. We especially thank Fr John, Fr Dominic and Mrs Belle Barling as well as Carroll College Year 9 students for their organisation, help and support. Thanks must also go to Mrs Ros Maher and students from Carroll College for the fantastic music for this Mass.

Grandparent’s Mass
A reminder that Mass tomorrow morning is a whole school Mass and a special tribute to all grandparents. All families, friends and parishioners are most welcome to join us at this Mass at 9.15am in the PAC (please note change of venue). "By tradition Joachim and Anne are considered to be the names of the parents of Mary, the Mother of God.” While the secular world has a grandparents’ day, the Church has one too. The feast of Saints Joachim and Anne could serve well as an occasion to recall the fact of our grandparents, and also be the occasion to consider the grace of having an extended family. Grandparents can be great models of a life of discipleship.

Kinder and Year 1 Mass
We warmly welcome all parents, friends and parishioners to join us at our Kinder/Year 1 Mass next Friday 12 June at 9.15am in the Church (if renovations are being done, Mass will be in our hall).

School/Parish Mass
We will celebrate a school/parish Mass on Sunday 14 June at 10am. At this Mass we will celebrate our parish feast day for the Sacred Heart. It would be wonderful if as many families as possible can attend this Mass. If your family will be attending, could your child please let me know early next week so that we can arrange a practice for readings and drama. Thank you.

Mother Teresa
One day in the mother house in Calcutta there were about three hundred novices and they were all out for the morning. One of the novices working in the kitchen came up to Mother Teresa and said, “We’ve planned poorly; we have no flour to cook lunch. Three hundred plus mouths are coming to be fed in about an hour and there’s nothing to cook with. There’s no food. Mother Teresa’s spontaneous reaction was to say, ‘Sister, you’re in charge of the kitchen this week? Well then, go into the chapel and tell Jesus we have no food. That’s settled. Now let’s move on. What’s next?’” Lo and behold, ten minutes later there was a ring at the door and Mother Teresa was called downstairs. A man she had never seen before was standing there with a clipboard. He addressed her saying “Mother Teresa, we were just informed that the teachers at the city schools are going on strike. Classes have been dismissed and we have 7,000 lunches we don’t know what to do with. Can you help us use them?”

Have a safe and happy weekend
Marg Croese
Religious Education Coordinator
Many thanks to all the volunteers who have assisted in the canteen over the term; I’ve thoroughly enjoyed our Fridays together. The response to help out this term has been fantastic!!

Without your help the canteen would not be able to function and we would not be able to provide such a great service for our students. Your contribution to our school is greatly appreciated.

Thank you again for donating your valuable time at the Canteen!
Shellie Butler
Canteen Manager

Maths problem of the week!!!
There is an even number between 200 and 300 that is divisible by 9 and 5. What is the number?

Last week’s answer: 1 ten cent and 6 five cent coins. Congratulations Shayne H (Year 6)!
Week 7 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**
Brooke B, Cecilia S, Charlie H

**Kinder W**
Baley D, Murray L, Zara H

**Year 1H**
Lachlan G, Harry K, Lilly R

**Year 1O**
Millie H, George G, Tarlaya T

**Year 2JP**
Beau M, Marissa M, Max C, Lauren W

**Year 2J**
Kehlei C, Ellie VW, Will G

**Year 3D**
Jasper Z, Emma P, Kalissa B, Jack B

**Year 3S**
Monique B, Tahlia P, Alex C

**Year 4**
Tiarna M, Luke M, Julie N

**Year 5**
Huon D, Makayla C, Charlotte Q

**Year 6**
*Carried over to next week*
Ahoy Me Hearties!!
The very exciting Pirate Day event is almost here.

When: Friday 12 June
Where: St Mary’s Primary School
Why: Pirate Day Friday is a national fundraising day raising funds and awareness for research into the cure and prevention of Childhood Brain Tumours. This means the kids (and the teachers) get the chance to dress up as pirates for the day in exchange for a gold coin donation.

Important information: Come dressed as a pirate and wear your creative eye patch that you have made. Please bring a gold coin donation. The eye patches have arrived and will be handed out on Tuesday 9 June for children to decorate at home. Keep this eye patch safe until Friday 12 June as there are only a small number of spare patches. Check out www.piratedayfriday.com for more information.

SRC IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Cooper B – School Captain
When did you commence at St Mary’s? 2009
What is one of your favourite school memories? All of the sports carnivals
One thing you love about St Mary’s: All of the lovely teachers
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: To raise lots of money for Pirate Day.
Favourite book: The Maze Runner
Interests and hobbies: Surfing and football
What are your dreams for the future? To be a professional sports player

Abbey C – Howard Captain
When did you commence at St Mary’s? 2009.
What is one of your favourite school memories? When I made the Mackillop Tennis team for school.
One thing you love about St Mary’s: All the fun sports days
One thing you would like to see the SRC achieve this year: Crazy hair day
Favourite book: Alice Miranda
Interests and hobbies: Tennis, netball and craft
What are your dreams for the future? To become a famous tennis player and to be a florist.

Sophie O’Hehir
Rugby Union Final

Last Friday the boys from Year 6 travelled to Canberra to play in the primary school rugby final. They played at GIO Stadium as a curtain raiser to the Brumbies game. The team played two fifteen minute matches against Yass and Griffith. It was a pleasure to take these boys who were brimming with excitement and totally in awe at the chance to play on such a great field. Everyone tried really hard and before the match I asked that they take one memory from the game, whether it be a good tackle, a great run or even scoring a try. I am certain that they have and will remember the night for a long time to come. The magnificent support by families and friends that travelled up the mountain to watch was also a highlight. It was a wonderful night and a marvellous experience for everyone involved.
The team was: Cooper B, Sam H, Tom H, Bailey B, Ignatius R, Ael H, Reilly B, Joshua C, Declan C, Vincent E, Sebastian H, Archie H and Rhys F.

Jeff Prow

Mini Vinnies Winter Appeal

The Mini Vinnies Group are hosting a Winter Appeal. A Winter Appeal is when students and our school community are asked to donate soup cans or a tin of food before the end of week 9 (Friday 19 June). Please leave cans with your class teacher.

Just for fun: There will be a competition between the infants (K-2) and primary (3-6) for the longest line of cans. I wonder who will win?

If families are able to still donate blankets for big Vinnies that are no longer needed in your household, please leave them in Miss O’Hehir’s classroom (hall).

Thanks for your support with this. The food and blankets will certainly help those in need during the cold winter.

Mini Vinnies and Sophie O’Hehir

Don’t forget:

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!

6pm, Thursday 11 June in the PAC
Don’t be daft about Minecraft

Minecraft may be the best trend to hit boy world in years. Writer Jason Fox explains the attraction and outlines the benefits for kids.

Minecraft may be the best trend to hit boy world in years. Writer Jason Fox explains the attraction and outlines the benefits for kids.

If you have a young child or teenager, chances are you’ve heard about Minecraft. It’s a video game that’s kind of like digital LEGO, except that you’re in an ever-evolving world with seemingly limitless possibilities. It’s a game that inspires deep exploration, collaboration and creativity.

It has been the subject of international conventions. Some schools and universities have even incorporated Minecraft into their curriculum, where students learn about city planning, environmental issues, getting things done, and even how to plan for the future, as well as things like maths and problem solving.

The open sandbox nature of Minecraft makes it one of the most exciting games on the market – and not because of its flash graphics or blood and gore (there are none of those). The gameplay experience design just works. And on top of all that, it’s rated one of the safest video games for kids ever.

But parents are worried.

And rightfully so, to a degree. Too much of a good thing can be a bad thing.

But some parents are freaking out about the amount of time their kids are investing in the game, and are imposing blanket bans of it without first understanding its magic.

So, let’s have a look at what makes Minecraft so engaging, why blanket bans aren’t a good idea, and how to manage your child’s play.

Minecraft is an infinite, non-winnable game. Unlike a book, a game of chess, or a football match, a Minecraft game doesn’t end. There’s always more that can be explored, and more that can be done. The projects you undertake in Minecraft are self-initiated: no one is telling you what to do. And the process of making progress within Minecraft is completely autonomous – no one is telling you how to execute your projects and achieve your goals. It’s self-regulated learning at its finest.

So, when a parent bans Minecraft it’s a lot different to banning other games. You’re not simply cutting your child out from a source of entertainment. You’re preventing them from accessing a world where it’s safe to fail, learn, explore, build and share.

In essence, it can be pretty devastating – particularly when we put things back into the context of the future of work.

Why? Because your child’s ability to participate in and contribute to unprecedented, self-driven, creative and collaborative work is going to be one of the key employable talents in the future. Your child could already be building a digital portfolio of project work, without you even knowing it.

But being able to ‘unplug’ and manage time and energy are essential skills your child needs to learn too. So, here are three ways you can help them manage Minecraft in your house:

more on page 2
... Don’t be daft about Minecraft ...

1. **Show genuine interest (this should be your first step)**
   If your child plays Minecraft, ask them to take you on a tour. Show an interest in their passion, and ask them questions like: what are you trying to build? What are your goals? What are the steps you need to take? What’s the coolest thing you’ve found? Set aside at least an hour for this. It’s highly likely they’d love the chance to share this with you, which will help you to open up a new level of connection with them.

2. **Encourage interactivity correctly**
   Minecraft’s multiplayer mode allows your child to play and build in the same online world as their friends.

   But remember: there are a lot of idiots on the internet, so do the following two things:
   - **a)** Create your own server or ‘whitelist’ – it’s like having an invite-only friend list.
   - **b)** Use a family-friendly server – you can Google these to find the right one to play in.

3. **Don’t ban – bracket**
   Banning something like Minecraft should be the very last resort, as it usually only serves to enhance the craving for it. Instead, make it part of their daily ‘free time’. Try not to have this at the end of the day or make it contingent on homework being completed, as this may only create angst, rushed homework and late nights. After school is best, especially if it’s bracketed by dinnertime, where all phones and computers are turned off.

   My true hope is that you give option #1 a very good go first. And if #1, #2, #3 don’t work, I’m hoping you’ve found them an even better game to play.

   **Jason Fox**

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**CHECK OUT MINECRAFT:**


- And finally, check out the brilliant work of Dean Groom and Massively Minecraft (a place for both kids and parents to play): [http://massively.jokydia.com/](http://massively.jokydia.com/)

- Dr Jason Fox keeps savvy people up to date with the latest in motivation design. Learn more at [www.drjasonfox.com](http://www.drjasonfox.com)

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Variety Concert

When: Wednesday 24th June 2015
Thursday 25th June 2015

Where: Carroll College Hall
George Bass Drive, Broulee

Time: 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start

Cost: Adults $7
Students & Pensioners $3
$20 for a family ticket

Refreshments such as tea, coffee, cold drinks, biscuits and cakes will be available for purchase during

You are invited to attend the Carroll College Variety Concert. Come and see our amazingly talented students.

These concerts will also feature some students from St Mary’s & St Bernard’s Primary Schools.

Tickets will only be sold at the door. Funds raised will go towards equipment for the Hall.
Walking the Camino

SATURDAY JUNE 20, 11.00AM
‘WALKING THE CAMINO’
AN AUDIO-VISUAL PRESENTATION BY PETER KEARNEY

An 80-minute presentation featuring photographs with music, played and shown on a large screen television. Live commentary by Peter Kearney. The Camino de Santiago is a pilgrimage path to the burial place of St. James the Apostle, a path has been walked for over a thousand years. In May-June 2012, Peter Kearney walked 700km along the Camino Frances, from St. Jean-Pied-de-Port just over the French border to Santiago de Compostela in north-west Spain. The Camino path traverses a variety of landscapes - winds over mountain passes, goes through farmyards, by green crops and vineyards, rests in medieval villages of stone and mud. The presentation also includes photos and stories of pilgrims met along the way and provides information on Camino history, customs and practicalities. Peter is happy to answer questions at conclusion.

** Limited seating. Registration essential.
Register with Peter by email: camino@peterkearneysongs.com.au
Please specify event location & number of seats needed.
Or sms to 0425 328 185. Specify venue and seats needed.

“Easily the best account of the Camino I have seen. Peter’s commentary and selection of music accompany a brilliant array of photos.” (John Dawson)

“Music, image, reflection, history, connection - so much pulled together for us to enjoy”. (Keith Dowling)

“A beautifully put together 80 minutes”. (Virginia Adlise)