



# St Mary's Newsletter

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
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Thursday 14 June 2018 Week 7 Term 2

We want our children to be:  
CARING, BELIEVERS, OPEN, SECURE, WELL BALANCED, GENEROUS, CREATIVE

## Dates to Remember

Friday 15 June @ 8.50am  
Tuesday 19 June @ 8.50am  
Friday 22 June  
Sunday 24 June @ 10am  
Wednesday 27 June  
Thursday 28 June @ 8.50am  
Saturday 30 June @ 6pm-8pm

Year 4 Assembly in the Multi-Purpose Room  
P & F Meeting in the staff room  
Confirmation Retreat (Year 6)  
Confirmation Mass  
P&F 'Cheesy' Morning Tea Deal  
Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Oral Language  
Presentations in the Multi-Purpose Room  
Youth Mass

The Uniform Shop is open on  
**Thursday afternoons between 1pm and 3:30pm** 😊  
Term 2 is Winter Uniform

### MASS TIMES



**Kirup** (as of 1 June, till end of August there will be no Mass in Kirup)  
**Donnybrook** (no 6pm Sunday night mass until further notice)

**Sunday 17 June**  
Donnybrook @ 10am

**Altar Servers: Anthony, Jade and Jackson**

**Sunday 24 June (Confirmation Mass)**  
Donnybrook @ 10am

**Altar Servers: Sebastian, Jai and Claire**

Ephesians 4:29 (ESV) "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

**UNIFORM SHOP**

# SALE

**Size 14 and 16 only Blue Tracksuit pants \$5 each**

Dear Parents/Caregivers

### **Learning**

Coding is one skill that the children in a number of classes have focused on this semester. *Coding* is a list of step-by-step instructions that get computers to do what you want them to do. *Coding* makes it possible for us to create computer software, games, apps and websites. Coders, or programmers, are people who write the programmes behind everything we see and do on a computer. It has been great to see the classes designing programs for the robots, manoeuvring mazes, and designing code.

We aim to provide some diverse learning experiences at St Mary's. On Wednesday we had African drummers present a great interactive show to the school community. Check out the photos on our facebook page. We thank the P & F who have sponsored the last two musical incursions in the school and we are very proud to be supported in our learning by our parent body.

### **Engagement**

Our students can provide us with valuable feedback on the teaching and learning in the school. Feedback is given to teachers in a number of ways - informal and formal. Part of our lesson structure is to have a plenary at the end of lesson - this is an opportunity for students to summarise what they have learnt as well as provide feedback on what was effective/ineffective in the lesson. Other formal ways we get feedback is through the surveys and earlier this term as part of our Fogarty Edvance Project we asked the students in Years 4, 5 and 6 to provide feedback about the school.

The results were very positive

100% of students believe that schooling is useful in their everyday life and will have a strong bearing on their future.

95% of students try hard to succeed in their learning.

84% believe their teachers tell them what they need to learn next to get better.

76% of students agree that teachers, parents and students work together to achieve what is best for students.

72% of students are interested and motivated in their learning.

An area for improvement according to the student survey data is for teachers to be more explicit in asking for feedback from the students.

30% of students felt their teacher asked them about their teaching.

The challenge for us as educators going forward is to challenge our students while keeping them motivated and engaged in the learning process.

80% of students often/always felt safe coming to school. We hope to get this to 100% as we work on code of conduct, Aussie Optimism, St Mary's values and Keeping Safe practices.

### **Accountability**

Thank you to the teachers who are busy writing reports at the moment providing valuable feedback to parents and students on the wonderful learning taking place. Our reports also provide students with areas they need to continue to work on to ensure further development of knowledge and skills in particular learning areas. Reports will be sent out Tuesday 26 June at the end of the school day. Please take the time to talk to your student about their achievements this semester and to celebrate the great learning they have achieved. If you have any queries regarding reports please make an appointment time to see your child's classroom teacher.

### **Discipleship**

One of the special aspects of our school is the connection to parish. We love having Father Gerald visit our classrooms and spend time with the staff and students. We also thank the parish for their great support of the school. At our Confirmation mass the parish will do the readings and also the flowers - we thank them for helping to make the day so special. If you would like to support the Confirmation

candidates - please join us for the mass on June 24 at 10am and for morning tea afterwards (please bring a plate to share). God Bless, Annette Quirk

## P&F News

- Next P & F Meeting on Tuesday 19 June at 8.50am in the Staff Room.
- Save the date: Morning tea meal deal Wednesday 27th June
  - Save the date: Obstacle Run4Fun Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July

**RUN4FUN OBSTACLE COURSE** - We're excited to participate in the School Run4Fun Fundraiser. The focus will be having fun on an obstacle course with the added benefit of raising funds for our school. Next week, the students will be provided with a Parent Letter and Sponsorship Form, so keep an eye out for the Sponsorship Form each student will receive to help raise funds for our great school.

God Bless, St Mary's P & F

### Small Mind, More Talk

The rainy season is upon us and one useful invention is the humble umbrella. In some cultures, umbrella is not used only during the rainy season but also during summer as a protection from the sun's harmful rays. But when umbrella was first used the inventor got a lot of public ridicule and criticism. Joseph Hanway from the city of London lived in 18th century. He was an author, a merchant and a philanthropist who walked the streets of London carrying an umbrella. The public opinion about him was not very flattering as critics said he was effeminate for carrying an umbrella. The popular opinion of the day thought of him as crazy because rain is meant to make people wet. But he carried on regardless.

This anecdote typifies how some people who are big in talking have narrow vision. They exemplify the phrase, "small mind, more talk." People who always criticise new inventions, or radical vision, or change of thought show that they are indeed nothing but critics. These are people with sour attitudes who does not allow other people to grow. People who engage in mindless chatter and pointless criticism should realise that no monument was ever built in their honour. It is indeed true that when a person has nothing significant in his brain he is more likely to engage in petty talks and mindless criticism.

It comes as no surprise that a person who has wisdom prefers to be silent because in the company of silence he can see through many layers of life's realities. He can reflect more easily and see something significant that remains elusive to those who talk too much. In silence a person will discover who he truly is, his strength, his weaknesses, his vision and goals. A being, a person with depth, he is bound to achieve something significant.

It will do us well if we choose to open our mouths only as needed but instead choose to listen and be quiet. Let us be less critical of others but choose to see things from their own point of view and if we cannot agree then let us do it politely and respectfully. The important thing is not to be too small minded so as to shut down an idea simply because it is not our idea.

Father Gerald Tan  
May 2018

### New Youth Mass Dates



**Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>**

All families are most welcome. Mass begins at 6pm followed by dinner in the Parish centre.

If your child/ family would like to be on the roster for altar serving, commentary, reading, offertory or collection please contact Cathy  
0419-527-231

Dear Parents,

I would like to offer to you the possibility of baptising your child/ren into the Catholic faith. This is to ensure that they receive the other sacraments and be part of the faith journey of their catholic friends and classmates. Your child/ren can be baptised during a ceremony in the school grounds with the rest of the school community as witnesses to this event. Please contact the Principal, Annette Quirk, or myself on 97311118 if you are interested.

Praying that your stay in St. Mary's school will continue to be fruitful not only in the intellectual side of things but also spiritually. God bless you all.

Respectfully Yours,  
Fr. Gerald Tan  
Parish Priest (Assumption of our Lady Parish)

# Knitting Counting Learning



Year 4

