An Aboriginal Prayer
Holy Father, God of Love, You are the Creator of this land and of all good things. We acknowledge the pain and shame of our history and the sufferings of our peoples, and we ask Your forgiveness.
We thank You for the survival of indigenous cultures.
Our hope is in You because You gave your Son Jesus to reconcile the world to You. We pray for Your strength and grace to forgive, accept and love one another as You love us and forgive and accept us in the sacrifice of Your Son.
Give us the courage to accept the realities of history so that we may build a better future for our nation. Teach us to care for our land and waters.
Help us to share justly the resources of this land. Help us to bring about spiritual and social change to improve the quality of life for all groups in our Communities, especially the disadvantaged.
Help young people to find true dignity and self-esteem by Your Spirit.
May Your power and love be the foundations on which we build our families and communities and our nation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Wontulp Bi-Buya, Indigenous Theology Working Group, 1997

Welcome Back
As Term 3 commences I would like to welcome you all back to a very busy term ahead. Our term calendar will go home today. We also welcome 12 new families to our school and I am certain that you will all help them feel like they belong to our wonderful school community here at St. Mary’s.

Parent / Teacher Interviews
Thank you to our teachers and parents who attended the Parent/Teacher Interview evening held last term. It was very successful and seemed to run smoothly throughout the evening. Your involvement in your child’s education is wonderful and the teachers and children value it a greatly.
Cybersafety Presentations - Next Tuesday  July 17th
As part of our commitment to child safety, we have organised these presentations by a presenter from the Australian Communication and Media Authority. Please take up the opportunity to get the latest information on keeping your children safe on the Internet.

Timetable for Presentations

Years 5, 6 and 7 children - 1:45pm - 2:45pm  
Staff - 3:15pm - 4:15pm  
Parents - 6:00pm - 7:30pm

NAIDOC Week
NAIDOC Week is celebrated during the first week in July. This is an annual week of social, political and cultural activities so that Indigenous Australians can celebrate their identity and affirm their active involvement in contemporary Australian life.
As we are on holidays then, we like to celebrate in the first week of Term 3. Children will be involved in a variety of activities from listening to Dreamtime stories to accessing interactive activities on the Brisbane Catholic Education RE website.

Sick Leave
Please keep Teresa Topp in your thoughts as she has some extended time off. She has been quite unwell of late and her doctor has advised her to take a further six weeks off. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Vision of Learning
Enclosed in the newsletter is the draft framework of our Vision for Learning. Your feedback would be appreciated.

Kindy and New Prep Sites
There will be some fencing being erected in front of the Prep area and between the Parish Centre and the adventure Playground. This is required for Workplace Health and Safety on building sites. They will restrict access to some parts of the school but we will let you know should it affect any parking etc. The main carpark’s access will remain open for the duration of the building work.

Pauls, Woolworths and Coles
Thank you for your collect-a-cap, Woolies stickers and Coles vouchers. Please keep them coming as they are a great way for our school to obtain resources.

School Renewal Dinner
As discussed at our P & F Meetings this year we are going to try something a little different with the process of our School Renewal. To complement the survey responses (surveys will be coming home in the next few weeks) we thought a more hands on approach would be beneficial. We will be sending home invitations to the School Renewal Dinner to be held on Wednesday 25th July to the first family names on each class role – these families will be invited to have the opportunity to share in the renewal process which our school undertakes annually. It will also add to the information we need to ensure our renewal process is relevant to our school community’s needs.

Tim Stinson
Principal
**Preparation for 1st Holy Communion**

Our Year 3 children are preparing to receive 1st Holy Communion. The Parish Sacramental programme begins on July 26th with a workshop for parents at 3:30pm and a repeat at 7:00pm in Mercy Hall. First Communion

Parent meetings will be held on 26th July in Mercy Hall.

Sessions are 3:30pm or 7pm.

Parents of children enrolled for First Communion are requested to attend one of these sessions.

Please put the date in your diary.

The children will receive the sacrament on the weekend of August 25th and 26th. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

**Beginning of Term Mass**

Year 4P will be leading our Eucharistic celebration this Friday. We will be praying for Indigenous Australians as part of our NAIDOC Week celebrations as well as for a happy, successful and safe term. Please join us on **Friday July 13th at 8:45am.**

Year 4 children have just completed a unit of work learning about Aboriginal Australian’s culture, so it is very fitting that they lead our Eucharistic celebration for NAIDOC Week.

**RE in the Classroom.**

Our Year 3 children will be learning about the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the structure of our Eucharistic celebration (the Mass). They will be accessing an online resource produced by the National Catholic Education Commission called **Together at One Altar.** [www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au](http://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au)

This should be a good resource with a variety of Learning Objects, video clips and interactive activities. The children will look at the links between the Mass and The Last Supper and Passover. Then they will deconstruct the structure of the Mass and learn about the significance of the prayers, symbols and rituals of our Eucharistic celebration.

**Prayers Please**

Please keep in your prayers those who are sick in our school community.

We would like to extend our sympathy to Deirdre Parkins and her family on the recent death of Deirdre’s dad.

*Trish Dunn*

*APRE*

**FOCUS FOR THE WEEK**

**W.E.S.T People**

Our focus this week is the “W” in being W.E.S.T people. As we welcome our new students and their families to our school this term, it would be wonderful to see everyone being a very “Welcoming” person as they settle into their new school and surrounds.
This term to tie in with the Premiers Reading Challenge, The National Year of Reading and the London Olympics we are going to have a reading Olympics. The following is the process being used.

**READING OLYMPICS**

How does the scoring work?
Awards are given by pages read, not books read. Students will add up the cumulative total of pages they’ve read.

**10 pages = 1 point.**

No picture books, no magazines or newspapers – only novels. Classroom reading counts.

Must be signed by parents to say they have read the books.

Classroom team captains to keep track of points achieved and number of books read and send these details to Mrs Rohan or Mrs Dunn as students reach medal levels. Each year level will be divided into four teams for four countries. There will be a boys and girls team in each class so it will be boys competing against girls and class against class.

Who can win prizes?
Medals will be awarded to the top readers in each Class (team from a country) at assembly.

**Year 6 and 7**
Gold Medal: 100 points or 1,000 pages
Silver Medal: 75 points or 750 pages
Bronze Medal: 50 points or 500 pages

**Year 4 and 5**
Gold Medal: 75 points or 750 pages
Silver Medal: 50 points or 500 pages
Bronze Medal: 40 points or 400 pages

The highest point scorers from each country and each team sport will win a prize.

There will be weekly updates in the newsletter.

Mary Rohan & Carmel Dunn

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**TUCKSHOP**

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Janet Deeran
Kathy Turner, Colleen Lindberg, Nicole Teese
Sharon Jervis

Thank you, **Fiona Tilley – Convenor**
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday and best wishes from everyone at St Mary’s to the following students:
Have a wonderful day!

SPORTS NEWS

Athletics Carnival
Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July – the Timetable of Events is coming home in the newsletter. At the bottom of the Newsletter is a form for Trophy Donations – please complete and return with payment to the office if you would like to support our Athletics Carnival.

THE ARTS

Guitar Lessons
Before the school holidays a letter was sent home regarding guitar lessons with a qualified teacher. Please note that this is an extra curricula activity. If you are interested please return the form to the school office or contact or text Anne Mitchell 0412 628 431.

ARTS AFTER SCHOOL
It is not too late to enrol your child in Arts after School for Term 3 if you are interested. Please see timetable below:

Tuesday – 3:15-4:15pm Hip Hop
4:15-5:15 Highland Dancing
5:15-6:15 Hip Hop

Wednesday – 3:15-4:15 Zumba
4:15-5:15 Zumba

Thursday – 3:15-4:15 Kung Fu / Tai Chi
4:15-5:15 Kung Fu / Tai Chi
5:15-6:15 Tai Chi – 13 - adults
6:15-7:15 GROOVE – 13 - adults

Times: 3.15pm – 4.15pm ~ 5 - 8 yr olds
4.15pm – 5.15pm ~ 9 – 12/13 yr olds
5.15pm – 6.15pm ~ 13 – Adults

For enrolment forms and pricing please contact:
Anne Mitchell - Ph: 0412 628 431 Email: artsafterschool@bigpond.com
Facebook: Arts After School.

CHOIR PERFORMANCE
The School choir will be performing at the Queensland Catholic Schools & Colleges Music Festival on 17th August 2012. Details will be sent home soon.

Yours in Arts
Anne Mitchell
**Date Claimer** Tuesday July 17th. **Cyber Smart Presentation** for students, staff and parents.

This presentation will address issues of security and safety whilst on the Internet or using mobile phones.

The presenter is from the Australian Communications and Media Authority

Parents workshop - 6:00- 7:30pm

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**Caritas Australia**

Caritas Australia, the Catholic Church’s Agency for International Aid and Development, is looking for a person, committed to Social Justice and the Church’s mission to the poorest of the poor, to be our Diocesan director Brisbane and to work with our Queensland and Lismore diocesan directors. This is a full-time paid position, located in Brisbane and may be the job for you. If you are interested, please read further information on the notice board, contact HR Caritas Australia on 1800 024 413 and/or go to website www.caritas.org.au/jobs and send applications to jobs@caritas.org.au by 5 pm Friday 3 August.

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**Scenic Rim Cheer Association** Fundraising Event

DATE: 20th July
TIME: 6 – 9pm
WHERE: Gecko’s Village Square 18 Commerce Dr, Browns Plains (Near Trade Secret)
COST: $20 – includes laser tag, blacklight golf, lasertonics games and jumping castle food and drink. Raffles and Stalls.
AGES: 5 – 14 years
Fancy Dress Disco Night!
Pre-Order Tickets to assure booking by Monday 16th.
For More details CONTACT: Cathy Briant 5543 3684 or email cathy@amazingfunparties.com.au
TROPHY DONATIONS
If you or your business would like to donate a trophy for our athletics carnival, please indicate (✓) which age group you would like to sponsor, fill in the details and return to the office with payment by the 18th July. Age champion trophy $16.00 Runner up trophy $12.00

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Receipt required: Yes / No  Contact number: ________________________________