TERM DATES FOR 2012

7th May (Public Holiday)

Term 2  
16th April – 22nd June

Term 3  
9th July – 21st Sept

Term 4  
8th October – 7th Dec

Whole School Mass this week will be on Thursday at 8.45am. Please note there will be no Mass on Friday.

Assembly: Special Guest Tricia Ryan

24th May

- School Feast Day

1st June

- Confirmation

7th June

- Tidalik the Frog (P-1)

Children are to wear sports uniforms for Feast Day Thursday 24th May 2012.

No 15 – 16th May 2012

Mary, Help of Christians
Lord, you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary, Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.

Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace.

AMEN.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I was keen to pass on some information following our P&F Meeting last week.

Firstly we discussed creating a Volunteer class parent representative: this person will be a contact for other parents in that class. They will be a person who will contact other class parents when needed. This may be to do with a school activity, working bees or fundraising activity. It may also be a person who could, on occasion organize some support for families in the class group if needed. If you are interested please notify the office. We hope we might have one parent per year level.

A School Renewal Dinner – Each year we look at 6 or so areas relating to school life to evaluate our progress. Usually we send surveys home and will continue to do this in 2012. To add to the feedback we also are planning a “Renewal dinner” Next term some parents will be invited to join us for a dinner where we will have a chance for a discussion about our plans in the school. More details to follow.
As you know NAPLAN was last week. These tests will give you a point of time reference to your child’s progress. Please keep Wednesday 20\textsuperscript{th} June free to meet with your child’s teacher where there will be detailed information available to share with you regarding the progress of your child.

We are holding a fundraising event for the State of Origin Game Two which will be held in the school hall on Wednesday 13\textsuperscript{th} June. The night is for parents and friends. Perhaps you might like to organize a group and join us for the evening. We are holding a raffle which will be drawn on the evening. The prize is a framed, signed print of Darren Lockyer. Tickets will go home towards the end of this week. All proceeds will go towards the P&F projects that help support our children.

Tim Stinson – Principal

Winter is coming so we are thinking about the less fortunate that are going to be cold and hungry this winter. The Service Committee is holding a Winter Appeal for the less fortunate. If you have any canned food, clothes and blankets spare at home, please bring them in. There will be a donation box in each classroom. These donations will go towards the St Vincent DePaul Winter Appeal. We would like these donations before 18\textsuperscript{th} June 2012. Thank you in advance for your donations.

The Service Committee

School Feast Day- Feast of Mary Help of Christians- Children are to wear sport uniform. Timetable for Feast Day:

- 8.45am Mass
- 9.30-10.30 Tabloid Sports Session One
- 10.30-11.00 Morning Tea
- 11.00-1.00 Tabloid Sports Session Two
- 12.30-1.00 Lunch for Prep & Year One
- 1.00-1.30 Lunch for Yrs 2-7
- 1.30-2.15 Lunch for teachers and play for children
- 2.15 Cutting of the cake - Undercover Area

Whole School Mass this week will be on Thursday at 8.45am for Feast Day. Please note there will be no Mass on Friday.

Confirmation will be held on Friday 1\textsuperscript{st} June at 5:30pm and 7:00pm. Please contact the parish office 07 5541 1068 with your intended time. Thank you.
Trish Dunn
APRE

IN THE CLASSROOM

Under 8s Day
A reminder that we will be holding Under 8s Day on Monday 28th May for students in Prep – Year 2. Please note that parents, guardians, grandparents and toddlers are most welcome to join us. The morning will run from 9.00am-10.30am. Please come and join for an exciting morning full of art and fun games.

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

MJR – Class Spirit
Basically we would all like to belong to a class where we are welcomed each day by our friends with a “good morning”, when we walk into our classroom – where our opinions are listened to without being put down by others, where we feel welcomed that we could join in games and where we are encouraged by the rest of the class.
Ask yourself?
1. Do I welcome people into the class by saying “Hello”? 
2. Do I put people down, by words or body language?
3. Do I invite others to join in? our class spirit is strong if individually we all try.
4. How can I improve my skills in the classroom?
5. Can I go outside my friendship group to greet and treat others?
6. When I rate myself as a member of my class do I put in volunteering etc?
This week’s school rule that we are focusing on is Be Respectful – Classroom. We have reminded the children that everybody has the right to learn. This can be done by minimizing the distractions such as arriving late, approaching each lesson with enthusiasm, finish allocated tasks to the best of your ability and being willing to be an active learner in the classroom.

CURRICULUM CORNER

Music in the St. Mary’s Arts Programme - Early Years
St. Mary’s Arts Programme is working under the guidelines of the Kodaly philosophy using the First Steps in Music Programme developed by John M. Feierabend PhD who is a
Professor and Chair of the Music Education Department of the Hartt School of the University of Hartford, USA. Kodaly was a composer, musician and teacher in Hungary in the 1950’s whose philosophy has children singing and playing instruments and performing dance from memory, including a large number of traditional singing games, chants, and folk songs, drawn first from the child’s own heritage of folk song material and later expanding to include music of other cultures and countries. In the Arts we perform, listen to, and analyse the great music of the world. We are working to achieve mastery of musical skills, such as musical reading and writing, singing and part-singing. (this is the eventual goal not quite there yet!!)

The children improvise and compose, using their known musical vocabulary at each developmental level. This is achieved almost immediately with the children singing ‘Arioso’ (simple made up songs about themselves) right from the start.

“The curriculum is based on folk and traditional songs and rhymes because to their ability to connect generations and because of their natural melodic expressiveness, natural flow of the language and texts filled with wonder.” John Feierabend

The curriculum is based on early childhood research related to the development of

1. Music intelligence
2. Singing skills
3. Sensitivity to the beat and beat groups
4. Expressive Movement
5. Musical memory
6. Preferences
7. Neurological Connections

**Goals For Children**

To experience activities that will prepare children for the development of

1. Accurate rhythmic skills
2. Accurate singing skills
3. Sensitivity to the expressive qualities of music

These of course are a work in progress!!

Parents are invited to join in this enjoyable approach to the Arts by singing and moving with your children at home. I have included some of the songs and rhymes that you can ask your children about - some of which you will already know, these are located in the Arts Section of this newsletter. These are the sorts of things that we used to learn from the older generations in our families, and family enjoyment and shared activity can only be a wonderful way to strengthen family ties and arts skills. This becomes more formal in upper grades but no less enjoyable. Sometimes the Arts covers many disciplines – music, dance, drama, media arts.
Do not compare one child’s accomplishment with another’s. Children develop at different rates. Later development is sometimes better!
Happy playing and singing!! You don’t have to have a great voice – just give it a go!!!!

Motto in our classroom – HAVE NO FEAR!
Anne Mitchell
Arts Teacher, St. Mary’s

Trish Dunn
APRE

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**TUCKSHOP**

4th Friday 23rd May  Wendy Lohmann, Heather Stephan & Donna Pilon
4th Monday 28th May  Sharon Jervis

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

We celebrated National Simultaneous Reading in the Hall today with a reading of the book “The Very Cranky Bear”.

On Wednesday, 6th June we will have our second term National Year of Reading activity. We will again have a Reading Sit-in at lunch time in the hall where children are encouraged to bring a cushion, cuddly toy and a book to read. To add a little more excitement to the day we would like everyone to wear their pyjamas to school and bring a gold coin donation for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Parents are welcome as well. (For safety reasons children should still wear their school shoes.)

This should be another great celebration of the joy of reading.

Quota club of Beaudesert is once again running their “QUOCKA” scheme. Each child in Year 2 will receive a book to keep and the library will receive a copy of the same book. Members of Quota will come and read these books with the children every Tuesday for the next four weeks. This is a very exciting initiative especially for our National Year of Reading.

Mary & Carmel

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Happy birthday and best wishes from everyone at St Mary's to the following students:

Edward Duke, Max Hohl, Emily Neuendorff, Jamie McKenna, Samuel Kulrich, Patrick Duke, Seth Pinnow & Aidan Gough

Have a wonderful day!

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School photos due back at the office by Friday 25th May
Queensland Catholic School Championship Cup

Early in the morning of Monday 21st May, 20 girls from year 6 and year 7 travelled to Brisbane to play a full day of netball games. This was a long day and the girls did very well while displaying WEST qualities on and off the courts. The year 7 team came third out of 8 teams and the year 6 team held their own and played very well. Congratulations and thank you to all these girls! A special thank you must be extended to the parents that helped transport and support the teams, in particular Selena Wilkie for assisting in training the year 6 team at lunch. Also thank you to Casey Rose (past student) for her amazing umpiring skills and Mrs Nikki Day for stepping in to umpire a couple of games as well. It wouldn’t have been such a successful day without the help of you all.

District Cross Country

On Tuesday the District Cross Country team went to Hills International School, Jimboomba to compete. All students who attended displayed true sportsmanship. They ran to their best ability and all finished with a smile on their face. Congratulations to the whole school team who represented St Marys. A special congratulation is in order to the students who made the top 10 and will be competing at the regional level. A special mention must go to Brooke Iselin, Harriet Harlen, Caitlin Hannigan and Jade Stevenson who received medals for their top 3 positions. Thank you to all parents for their support and encouragement. It was a wonderful day.

Belinda Ciuffetelli

Sports Uniforms are to be worn on the following days:
Year 1-3 Tuesday & Thursdays
Years 4-7 Wednesday & Friday

THE ARTS

ARISTS AFTER SCHOOL

Hip Hop is putting in two groups into the Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod performing at the Logan Entertainment Centre in August. We are very excited about our first Eisteddfod.

It is not too late to enrol your child in Arts after School if you are interested. Please see timetable below (changes in bold):

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 Kung Fu / Tai Chi
6:15-7:15 GROOVE
**Chop, Chop**

Chippity Chop

Chop, chop, chippity chop

*with one hand, tap on the other arm*

Cut off the bottom and cut off the top

*continue tapping*

What there is left,

*scoop up a pile of chopped vegetables*

*with both hands*

We’ll put in the pot

*place vegetables in pot.*

Chop, chop, chippity chop

*Resume tapping on arm.*

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**Five Little Ladies**

Five little ladies going for a walk

*begin with both hands behind your back; bring one hand out and tap (sitting) on the floor*

Five little ladies stopping for a talk

*tap the tips of your fingers together*

Along came five little gentlemen,

*bring other hand out from behind back while tapping on the floor*

They all danced together and that made ten

*Fold hands and sway them back and forth*

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**Pitter, Patter**

Pit-ter, pat-ter, pit-ter, pat-ter, Listen to the rain.

Pit-ter, pat-ter, pit-ter pat-ter, on my window pane.

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

RSL Australian Spirit Competition Entries close Fri 25th May

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**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

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Yours in Arts
Anne Mitchell
Attention All Mums:
After a busy term, enjoy a relaxing night out at the Railway Hotel on Friday 15th June anytime after 6.30pm. RSVP by Friday 8th June to Di Hardy 0434 801 432 or return the slip below to the office.

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_______________________________________________________________
Mum’s Dinner – 15th June at the Railway Hotel
I_____________________________________________ would love to enjoy a relaxing night out.

A WORLD APART
On 26th and 27th May, five locations in the Mt Barney valley invite you to experience “A World Apart”. This family-friendly event is now in its fifth year, and it allows you to sample unique local food and wine, and visit each venue at a leisurely pace. Your FREE ticket allows you to sample local wine, homemade Italian gelato, an alpaca farm tour, a bushtucker tour and samples, and croquet in a heritage garden. Come and discover Mt Barney, and visit your backyard for a day!!
There will be additional food items and activities for sale on the day including authentic wood fired pizzas, Alpaca crafts, a Scottish High Tea, gourmet bushtucker BBQ fare, and local wine by the glass/case.
Those who visit can enter the multi-prize draw to win over $600 worth of accommodation, experiences, and wine prizes donated by the participating operators.
No booking is needed, just follow the signs, and collect your free ticket at the first venue you visit 9am-4pm each day.