TERM DATES FOR 2012

Term 2  
16th April – 22nd June

Term 3  
9th July – 21st Sept

Term 4  
8th October – 7th Dec

Mass – Please join 2G as they lead Mass this Friday at 8:45am

Assembly – 2pm lead by 1A

1st June
• Confirmation – 5:30am & 7:00pm

5th June
• World Environment Day

6th June
• Pyjama Day – Sit in & Read in the Hall

7th June
• Tidalik the Frog (P-1)

13th June
• OUT OF THE BOX (Yrs2&3)

15th June
• Mum’s Dinner at Railway Hotel

No 17 – 30th May 2012

Gracious God,
You have blessed this ancient land with many gifts, especially its people.
We thank you for the Year of Grace, a time to start afresh from Christ.
You invite us to contemplate the face of Jesus your Son, that we may experience a new wave of grace, and that the light of Christ may burn brightly in our lives.
Attune our hearts and minds to the presence of your Holy Spirit, that out Church may be transformed, our relationships be healed, and our nation grow in compassion and justice.
With the intercession of St Mary MacKillop, who showed us new ways of living the Gospel, we make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen. Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Car Park Rules – another reminder about the car park rules of our school. All traffic is to flow through to the end of the driveway (in front of the Church) and loop back in a one way direction. You are not permitted to carry out U-Turns from the Prep car park – drive to the end of the driveway. This practice holds traffic up and it becomes dangerous. The speed limit is 10kph on the driveway, please drive at this speed carefully and be aware of children crossing the road on the pedestrian crossing in front of the Administration Building. Safety of the children is of the utmost importance for us here at St. Mary’s; your support in this matter is appreciated.
Before School Procedure – if you are dropping your children off in the morning before 8:15am please make sure they go straight to the Tuckshop area where they will be supervised.

School Feast Day – Last Thursday we celebrated our Feast Day beginning with a beautiful Mass celebrating Mary our Mother with all students attending. After Mass we started the day of fun activities co-ordinated by Diane McClure and assisted by staff members. This was a wonderful school spirit building opportunity and the children participated with great enthusiasm. Their many skills came into effect with the fantastic activities planned. Thank you to Diane for a most successful day of activities and to the staff who helped out on the field as well. Our Feast Day is not complete without a sausage sizzle and cake. Thank you to those who prepared the feast after a big day of fun, it was very well received. At assembly we had our own “Mary” – Mary Ledger in Prep Yellow help with the all-important cutting of the cake. We also had the pleasure of Mrs Plaatjies and her support crew showing us our new school dance. Overall we all had a wonderful day.

End of Semester Reports and the National Curriculum
This is the second year that our teachers have been using the National Curriculum for Maths, English, History and Science. We are feeling very confident in the way we are delivering the new curriculum and are well placed to come on board officially in 2013 when schools will be required to plan, teach, assess and report with the National Curriculum. The 1st Semester Reports that you receive at the end of this term will be reporting the National Curriculum areas of Maths, English, History and Science. The other subject areas will still be reported using the Queensland Syllabus.

Head Lice - Please see attached information sheet regarding head lice and how to treat it. The treatment only works if everyone is involved in the process.

Out of School Hours Facility – I had a meeting with Centacare members yesterday about the intended facility for our out of school hours care. This opportunity has been in the pipeline for some time and we are working towards this to be up and running by Term 4 of this year and is to be in full swing for the commencement of the 2013 school year. The facility will be run by Centacare as will our Kindy in 2013.

Tim Stinson – Principal
Year of Grace – Last Sunday we celebrated Pentecost Sunday, the great feast of the Church in which we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, fifty days after Easter. This year, the feast of Pentecost also marks the beginning of the Year of Grace. This Year of Grace, marking the 50th anniversary of the opening of Vatican II and following on from Sydney WYD08 and the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, seeks to build on the energy and spirit within the Australian Church. The bishops of Australia invite us, in the next 12 months, to refocus our lives on Jesus Christ, both in prayer and daily activities. Last week principals and priests from around the Archdiocese gathered together to reflect on ways in which they collaborate in their common mission. Archbishop Mark Coleridge joined us at each of the forums and led us in prayer. In speaking of the Year of Grace to each of the groups he emphasised that it is not a program to be implemented but rather an invitation to contemplate the face of Jesus and ponder what really matters in the tumult of life. He used the analogy of a retreat experience. The message, he said, is a simple one. During the year ahead, particularly in all aspects of our school life, we are invited to ask the question “What does this have to do with the risen Jesus?” Each school has received resources to use during the weeks ahead and the Year of Grace website also contains a wealth of material for reflection and prayer.

David Hutton
Executive Director of Catholic Education
Archdiocese of Brisbane

Confirmation – This Friday evening June 1st at 5:30 and 7pm many children will be making their confirmation. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they celebrate this special time together.

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

Sympathy – Our deepest Sympathy to the Larkin Family (Caitlyn 6S and Connor 4TN) on the passing of Tracey’s Father. We keep you all in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

Australian Catholics Magazine – coming home today is the next issue of the Australian Catholics Magazine. What is it that makes a ‘good’ school? What aspects make it a life-giving place? How well does the classroom connect young people’s current reality to their aspirations? How do students themselves see their learning environments? In this issue of Australian Catholics, we touch on these and other questions. We find ourselves reflecting on how school is not only a physical space with characteristics specific to its setting (whether urban or rural, for example), but a metaphysical one. It is a place of possibility. Some other topics that may be of interest are: Grading the Teachers, A different Kind of Success, A World Beyond the Classroom and Opening News Doors.

St Vinnies Winter Appeal – Our Year Seven 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 18th June 2012. Thank you in advance for your donations. The Service Committee
Please keep those who are sick in your prayers. Thank you

Trish Dunn

IN THE CLASSROOM

Under 8s Day

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time and helped for our Under 8s day. It was a great day all round full of laughter and smiles from all the little people.

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

MJR – “TUP” or “PUT” – Tolerance, Understanding and Patience

Delta Goodrem, in her song “Born to Try”, mentions “understanding” four times.

As part of being human we are a “one off” – unique. We all crave to be understood. We also have to understand ourselves.

To understand ourselves we also have to be tolerant and patient. Sometimes we get frustrated that we keep making the same mistakes and, as in the words of “Born to Try” – “we remove the clouds and look at the bigger picture”.

When we become tolerant and patient with ourselves, then hopefully we can move onto being tolerant and patient with others.

Each day at home and at school you will find examples of people being intolerant, impatient and showing misunderstanding – just listen to the ways some people speak to others and yet those people would want us to be patient and understanding to them.

When the Cronulla riots occurred in 2005 the Prime Minister of the time, John Howard, was stressing the importance of TUP.
**The National Curriculum - History** - A continuation of the explanation of the new History Curriculum.

**Year 3**
The Year 3 curriculum provides a study of identity and diversity in both a local and broader context. Moving from the heritage of their local area, students explore the historical features and diversity of their community as represented in symbols and emblems of significance, and celebrations and commemorations, both locally and in other places around the world.

*Key inquiry questions*

1. Who lived here first and how do we know?
2. How has our community changed? What features have been lost and what features have been retained?
3. What is the nature of the contribution made by different groups and individuals in the community?
4. How and why do people choose to remember significant events of the past?

**Year 4**
First Contacts
The Year 4 curriculum introduces world history and the movement of peoples. Beginning with the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, students examine European exploration and colonisation in Australia and throughout the world up to the early 1800s. Students examine the impact of exploration on other societies, how these societies interacted with newcomers, and how these experiences contributed to their cultural diversity.

*Key inquiry questions*

1. Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
2. What was life like for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of the Europeans?
3. Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?
4. What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?

**Year 5**
The Australian Colonies
The Year 5 curriculum provides a study of colonial Australia in the 1800s. Students look at the founding of British colonies and the development of a colony. They learn about what life was like for different groups of people in the colonial period. They examine significant events and people, political and economic developments, social structures, and settlement patterns.

*Key inquiry questions*

1. What do we know about the lives of people in Australia’s colonial past and how do we know?
2. How did an Australian colony develop over time and why?
3. How did colonial settlement change the environment?
4. What were the significant events and who were the significant people that shaped Australian colonies?

Trish Dunn
APRE

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**TUCKSHOP**

1st Friday 1st June Trish Dennis, Barbara Smith, Nita Tilney
1st Monday 4th June Leanne Stevenson

Thank you, **Fiona Tilley – Convenor**

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

Don't forget next Wednesday is Pyjama Day and our next Sit In and Read Day in the hall at lunch time. Please bring a gold coin donation for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.

Yesterday we had some special visitors from the local Quota club who came and read stories to a group of Year 2 children and then gave a book to each of the children they read to. This will continue for the next four weeks until each child in Year 2 receives a book. We will also have a copy of each book in the library. Thank you to all those who sponsor Quocka for your generous donation.

I am currently working with the Year six teachers to encourage the boys in particular to read fiction books as well as nonfiction. If you as parents could support us in this it would be greatly appreciated. One of best ways to get boys reading fiction is to have a male role model showing interest in their reading at home.

**Mary & Carmel**

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Happy birthday and best wishes from everyone at St Mary's to the following students:
Fionnan Nally, Jack Pearce, Brooke Kleinschmidt, Liam Parlette, Mia Teese, Sam Clapham, Wyatt Geddes, Esther Harm, Jed Hester, Jake Smith, Leah Caruana, Makenzie Vink, Michael McClure, Megan Johnston, Bronagh Nally, Caitlin Dennien and Isabelle Richardson.
Have a wonderful day!
St Mary's Feast Day
A day like the feast day would not be a success without the help of so many people. I would like to thank the staff for their dedication and enthusiasm which helped to create a fun atmosphere throughout the day and the many parents who came to spend time with their children, they really appreciated it. I would also like to thank the students who came early to help set up for the feast day, especially the year 7 sports committee. In addition I would like to thank the Chad and Louis Johnston and Joseph Nilon from year 6 who also gave their time to help set up.

Thank you to Dianne Hardy, Evette Haack, Mary Rohan, Annette Maloney and Trish Dunn for making playdough for St Mary's Feast Day. And lastly thank you students for being cooperative, friendly, and enthusiastic throughout the whole day.

SCHOOL SPORTS UNIFORM
Year 4-7 Wednesday and Friday
Year 1-2 Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 Wednesday and Thursday - This change is because the students in year 3 (born in 2003) are competing in all the track and field events this year. All year 3 students will be participating in the athletics program on Wednesday and the Gross Motor Program on Thursday.

Athletics
Athletics program starts today and will run for six weeks. The St Mary's Athletics Carnival will be on the 23rd and 24th of July.

THE ARTS

ARTS 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
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: artsaferschool@bigpond.com
Facebook: Arts After School.
Yours in Arts
Anne Mitchell

GET MOVING FOR HEALTHY AND ACTIVE EXPO
25 May 2012
On your marks, get set, and go to the free Healthy and Active Community Expo at Queensland Moto Park, Wyaralong on Sunday 3 June.

To help you plan your healthy and active day, some of the great scheduled events are:
- Mick De Vere & Tonie Carroll Rugby Clinics: 10am – 12pm
- Hula Hoop Activities: 10am – 11.30am
- Brisbane Heat “Radar to record your fastest throw:” 11am – 1.00pm
- Children’s Theatre: 11.45am – 12.50pm
- Juggling & Ribbon Twirling: 12.30pm – 2.00pm
- Healthy Cooking Demos: 11.00am – 11.30am 1.00pm – 1.30pm

CONTACT - Trudy Aucoin – Communications Officer, Scenic Rim Regional Council
P: (07) 5540 5499 E: media@scenicrim.qld.gov.au

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.

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