Dear Parents,

Welcome back to St Mary’s for the 2015 school year. It was very nice yesterday to see everyone’s smiling faces. Everyone has been, so full of excitement and enthusiasm; there is a real buzz around the school.

As we begin this new year, we ask God to bless our children –

Heavenly Father

We pray especially for our children
Reach out and touch them with your love
so that they will stop and sense your presence and turn to you.
Help them to use their gifts to serve you
And enjoy the person you created them to be.

Kind regards
Jodie Ware

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COUNCIL CREATING COMMITTEE FOR CHILDCARE

Wellington Shire Council is inviting residents to attend an information session on the brand new, 72 place Integrated Early Years’ Service facility within Yarram Hub at 6.30pm on Wednesday 18th February 2015.

In this session, Council will provide an update on the Early Years’ Services soon to be offered by the Centre. This will be followed by a general meeting at 7.00pm to establish a Committee of Management as an incorporated body for the provision of these services.

We’re working on a very tight timeline but would like to reassure the community that we are doing everything possible to have the Early Years’ Service operational, as intended, from the Yarram Hub from term two.

In addition to the local organisations on the Committee, we are also looking to recruit up to four community members and parents or guardians of children who will attend the Early Years’ Service.

Community members interested in registering their interest for the Early Years’ Service, joining the Committee of Management or voting on the nominated members must be registered 10 days prior to Wednesday’s meeting. Registration forms are available from school office or contact Council’s Early Years Project on 1300 366 244 for more details.
Happy Birthday to those who celebrate birthdays over the holidays and this week.

Calais, Lily K, Xavier, Ava & Britney

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Monday 2nd February**  
St. Mary’s School Assembly 9.00am

**Tuesday 3rd February**  
Yarram & district schools swimming Carnival trials

**Wednesday 11th February**  
2015 Opening School Mass 10.00am. All welcome.

**Friday 20th February**  
Yarram & district schools swimming Carnival at the Yarram Pool.

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**SCHOOL NEWS**

**WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

We welcome 11 new Students and their families to St. Mary’s this year.

Grade Prep: Evie, Calais, Xavier, Jenna, Ava & Ryan

Grade 2: Elgin & Hayley

Grade 4: Anthony & Kayla

Grade 5: Mason

Grade 6: Corey

**STAFF FOR 2014**

Principal - Jodie Ware

Prep/Grade 1 – Marianne Cook & Carmel Kilgower

Grade 2/3 – Anthony Sheedy & Jodie Ware

Grade 3/4 – Sue Benc & Carmel Kilgower

Grade 5/6 – Debra Owens & Maria Moore

Art – Maria Moore

Physical Education – Heather Flynn

EMU Specialist – Fiona Pickard

Library - Marg Tuohy

Integration Aides – Sharon Garland, Tracey Richards & Jo Griffiths.

Administration - Gleynse Ljubic & Heather Leemon.

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**2014 GRADE 6 LEADERSHIP TEAM**

School Captains: Ebony & David

Blue House Captains: Taylen & Talan

Green House Captains: Chloe & Hannah

Gold House Captains: Riley & Colby

Red House Captains: Zack & Coby

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**TRY OUR NEW SCHOOL APP!**  
“St Mary’s Primary, Yarram” in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, and install it on your phone free.

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**SCHOOL HATS**

Sun smart hats must be worn during term 1 & 4 while outside

NO HATS NO OUTDOOR PLAY

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Happy Birthday to those who celebrate birthdays over the holidays and this week.

Calais, Lily K, Xavier, Ava & Britney
BOOK CLUB

Book club pamphlets will be sent home throughout the terms. Childrens names must be written on each order form and placed in an envelope with the correct money. All orders are to be sent to the office by the due date.

Our first order is due back on Thursday 13th February.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Our school assembly's will be held on Mondays at 9.00am this is the time that we share all the all the wonderful things that are happening in our school community. We love having parents and friends at our assemblies.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education will be every Tuesday, all Students are to wear their sports uniform to school on this day and also bring a drink bottle of water with them. If students are not participating in their Phys Ed class, a note is required.

Dates for Term 1

Tuesday 3rd February
Mrs Flynn will be taking the swimming team to the Yarram pool for practice.

Friday 20th February
Yarram & district schools swimming Carnival at the Yarram Pool.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Our 2015 Opening School Mass is on Wednesday 11th February at 10.00am. All family and friends are invited to this special occasion.

SCHOOL FEES

2015 school fees accounts will be sent home next week. Payment of the first installment and levy fees are due by the end of the first term, unless otherwise arranges by periodical payments.

SCHOOL VISITERS

If you are planning to stay at the school for any other reason than picking a child up, you need to sign the visitor’s book at the front office.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE AND LEAVING EARLY

All students must be signed in and out of the school if attending school outside the regular school hours. An adult is responsible for signing the student in and out. This book is at the front office.

TOYS

A reminder to parents that students are not to bring special or expensive toys to school for outside play. These items may still be brought for show and share but will not be permitted to go outside during play time. Students may only bring sports equipment and dolls/teddies/cars for outside play but they must be clearly labeled with the child’s name on them we are asking in the case of dolls, that additional small parts /accessories are left at home to minimize the likelihood of them being lost. any items that are brought to school will be the child’s responsibility to look after. We do encourage for students to use the school equipment.

SCHOOL ASTHMA ACTION PLAN

Students with Asthma or Anaphylaxis attending our school need to carry, or have available in the school appropriate medication including, for example, a puffer or EpiPen.

Every student with Asthma or Anaphylaxis must provide the school with a Management Plan completed and signed by the child’s medical practitioner at the beginning of the school year.
MEDICATIONS

Should your child need medication during school time, you are asked to provide a signed note indicating the following: permission for the teacher to administer, the child’s name, the time of day the medication is to be administered, the dose required and the name and phone number of the medical practitioner who prescribed the medication.

All medication is to go directly to the office. For safety reasons, no medication is to be left in school bags or classrooms.

CAR PARKING

Children travelling to and from school by car can be dropped off and collected from the church Car Park or parents may park along Buckley Street, but are asked to keep clear of driveways and the No Standing Zones.

BUS TRAVEL

Two teachers are rostered to undertake Bus Duty every afternoon. Their role is to ensure that children are safely placed on the appropriate bus. If your child is not taking the bus on a particular day, you are asked to notify the school to ensure that this is marked on the Bus Roll. If your child needs a bus pass, a permission form must be completed and handed in to the office 48 hours prior to travelling on the bus. Your child’s behaviour on the bus is your responsibility. Continual misbehaviour may result in the withdrawal of the privilege of bus travel for the child concerned.

BIKES & SCOOTERS

Bikes and scooters are to be walked through the playground. No one is to touch or be near the bike racks during school hours. Cyclists are to ride sensibly to school. The wearing of helmets is compulsory. Please note that the school takes no responsibility for the storage of bikes and helmets and encourages the use of bike locks.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

It is school policy that all parents volunteering to assist at St. Mary’s have a current Working With Children Check. Volunteer forms are available from the Post Office. The school office will need a copy of this card for their records.

PARISH NEWS

Mass- Sunday 1st February, Yarram
10.00am

COMMUNITY NEWS

Woodside & District Football Netball Club’s Family Fun Day
8th Feb, 10am - 4pm.

Loads of FREE family fun - kids art & craft activities, netball match, father vs son footy match, goal kicking competition, face painting, jumping castle, glitter tattoos, petting zoo, family races, market stalls, colouring competition, party plan groups (tupperware, enjo, body shop & chefs toolbox), Raffles & Spinning wheel, full canteen available. FREE ENTRY. Still places available if you are interested in having a market stall. For enquirers please contact Becky Morton 0488 058 127 or email: rgmorton1982@gmail.com

Colouring Competition pictures are available at the school office and must be returned by Wednesday 4th February.