St. Mary’s School Welcome Picnic

Please come and join us on Tuesday 14th February at 5.00pm for a BYP family picnic on the oval. This is a great chance for families, friends & staff to meet and greet for the start of the new school year.

Mainly Music

Wednesdays 9.30am @ Mary MacKillop Hall

This is an excellent educational program of music with rhythm, rhyme and instruments. For Pre school children their parents/care giver.

Call Janice 0400 435 250 for more details.

HOT LUNCHES

Hot lunches will be starting on Wednesday 15th February 2017 price list and ordering instructions are attached to this newsletter and also available on the St. Mary’s Website and Skoolbag App.

This year Tracey and the Grade 5/6 class will be coordinating hot lunches so we will not require volunteers.

LITERACY AND MATHS TIPS TO HELP YOU CHILD

Helping your child to read, write, speak and listen—Pre school—Year 2

Story-telling

Story-telling is a great way to extend your child’s language and listening skills, as well as expanding their imagination. Either you can tell the story, or encourage your child to tell the story.

Story-telling might be about:

- A favourite character from a book or television program.
- Another family member.
- Your child’s favourite toy.

Here are some tips to start your story-telling:

- Make it exciting, with different voices, puppets, props or a finger play.
- Start with what interests your child.

PARISH NEWS

Mass: Sunday 12th February at 10.00am

ST. MARY’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Phone: 5182 5659
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Issue 2, 9th February, 2017

Dear Parents

Moving beyond asking, “What did you do at school?”

By Michael Grose

Ever found yourself asking your child the same bland question about school? “So, how was your day? What did you do at school today? What did you learn?” If these are your default questions the chances are that you’ll get a one or two word reply along the lines, “Fine!” “Good!” “Okay” “Nothing much.”

These answers don’t really tell you a lot. On the other hand, these types of questions don’t ask a great deal. So how can you move beyond the mundane when you talk with kids about their school days?

The questions you ask to prompt a conversation will often say a great deal about you and what you value. If you focus only on academic or learning questions, then it indicates that’s what you value. It helps to take conversations and your questions in different directions to get a multi-faceted window into your child’s school life but also an indication of your child’s interests, social skills and welfare.

Here are some examples of question starters that may prompt different responses from children about their time at school:

1. Tell me what made you laugh today?
2. Who did you play with at recess today?
3. Did you do anything that was brave?
4. If I spoke to your teacher, what would she tell me about you?
5. What did your teacher talk about today?
6. Is there anyone in your class who needs to be in time out?
7. Where’s the best place to hang out/play at school?
8. Tell me one good thing that happened to you today?
9. Who were you nice/kind/friendly to today?
10. Did anyone push your buttons today?
11. What did you do that you were proud of/happy with today?
12. What’s something you learned with a friend today?
13. What’s your teacher’s most important rule?
14. If today was a musical instrument what would it be? Why?
15. If you were a teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?

Kind Regards
Jodie Ware
SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL INFORMATION
To help keep updated on all St. Mary’s information we have the following:

Go to Skoolbag App in the App Store then St Mary’s Primary, Yarram

St. Mary’s Primary School Yarram
Facebook Page
Website: http://www.stmaryarram.catholic.edu.au

Weekly Newsletters: Sent home every Thursday

BOOK CLUB
Our first book club order is due back on Wednesday 15th February.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS
Our 2017 Opening School Mass is on Wednesday 15th February. All family and friends are invited to this special occasion. Grade 6 leaders will be presented with their badges during Mass.

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY
We welcome 19 new students and their families to St. Mary’s this year.
Grade Prep/1: Shekinah, Bianca, Lily, Samuel, Lilly, Xavier, Zahli, Hudson, Breanne, Seth
Grade 2: Gabrielle, Hannah, Benjamin Britney
Grade 4: Aimee
Grade 5: Tori, Brodie, Ryan
Grade 6: Baylin

SUNSCREEN LOTION
As part of a SunSmart school we are providing SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and students’ use.

Each Class room has a bottle of the Pharmacy Choice SPF 50+. If your child/children cannot use this brand, please let the classroom teacher know and provide their own sunscreen if needed.

The school Office has a copy of the ingredients.

SCHOOL FEES
2017 School Fees have been sent home on Tuesdays with the students. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK
It is Diocesan and school policy that all parents volunteering to assist at St. Mary’s have a current Working With Children Check carried out. Volunteer forms are available from the Post Office. These checks are free and take about three weeks to be processed.

CSEF FUNDING
Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF) will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the cost of camps, excursions and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.

Applications available from the school office.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS.
On Tuesday we had our first wet weather day of the year for Phys Ed, but it did not deter those children who were participating in our swimming trials. Congratulations to everyone who came along and tried their hardest, we were all very impressed with your efforts. Unfortunately we are only given 1-2 spots in each event, so we will finalise our team after next week’s practice. All children in our trial squad need to remember to bring their bathers next Tuesday 14th please.

A reminder that if children are not participating in their Phys Ed class on a Tuesday, a note or phone call is required please. Attendance and participation are important aspects when writing children’s reports.

Phys Ed Awards:
INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK.
For having a happy attitude to Phys Ed and looking like they are enjoying themselves.
Grade Prep/1: Zahli, Hudson & Riley
Grade 2/3: Jenna, Benjamin & Xavier
Grade 4/5: Emma, Travis & Lilly
Grade 5/6: Ryan, Mikayla & Hayden

Grade Award:
Grade 2/3 for impressive teamwork and cooperation on a wet weather day, WELL DONE.

Important Phys Ed date for Term 1
Tuesday 14th & 21st February - Yarram & District Schools Swimming Carnival Practice (Selected students Gr 3-6)
Friday 24th February - Yarram & District Schools Swimming Carnival. (Selected students Gr 3-6)
Tuesday 7th March - Wellington Division Swim Carnival. (Selected students Gr 3-6 from Yarram Schools)