Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

Yesterday was St Patrick’s Day, the most widely celebrated saints day in the world.

It is known that St. Patrick was born in Britain to wealthy parents near the end of the fourth century. He is believed to have died on March 17, around 460 A.D. Although his father was a Christian deacon, it has been suggested that he probably took on the role because of tax incentives and there is no evidence that Patrick came from a particularly religious family. At the age of sixteen, Patrick was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders who were attacking his family’s estate. They transported him to Ireland where he spent six years in captivity. (There is some dispute over where this captivity took place. Although many believe he was taken to live in Mount Slemish in County Antrim, it is more likely that he was held in County Mayo near Killala.) During this time, he worked as a shepherd, outdoors and away from people. Lonely and afraid, he turned to his religion for solace, becoming a devout Christian. (It is also believed that Patrick first began to dream of converting the Irish people to Christianity during his captivity.)

Familiar with the Irish language and culture, Patrick chose to incorporate traditional ritual into his lessons of Christianity instead of attempting to eradicate native Irish beliefs. For instance, he used bonfires to celebrate Easter since the Irish were used to honouring their gods with fire. He also superimposed a sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the Christian cross to create what is now called a Celtic cross, so that veneration of the symbol would seem more natural to the Irish. (Although there were a small number of Christians on the island when Patrick arrived, most Irish practiced a nature-based pagan religion.) The Irish culture centred around a rich tradition of oral legend and myth. When this is considered, it is no surprise that the story of Patrick’s life became exaggerated over the centuries-spinning exciting tales to remember history has always been a part of the Irish way of life.

Prayer:
In the wake of Tropical Cyclone Olywn, Pam, and with the build-up of Nathan we give thanks for all the goodness that has been revealed in the generosity of people and we pray for all that has been lost.

God, thank you for being our refuge and strength in times of trouble.
(Ps. 46:1-5)

God, may those facing uncertain futures place their trust in you. Give them rest.
(Ps. 37:3)

God, comfort those who are homeless or displaced, and living in shelters or with family, friends or strangers.
(Isa. 58:7)

Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Amen
**GROUNDS THANKS**
A large contingent of parents, staff, Rio Tinto employees and ex-students spent most of Sunday and Monday clearing the debris of trees and other items from the school grounds so we could open on Tuesday. Given the considerable size of the task, this was a mighty effort. A huge thank you to you all, especially Rocky Worthington and Peter Brooks who coordinated the workers. It was a fantastic display of generous community spirit and as a school we are all indebted to you for your efforts.

**YEAR 6 CAMP**
Next week, the Year 6 students with Miss Da Vares travel to Geraldton for their annual Confirmation Camp. This is a very exciting time for the boys and girls and we wish them all the very best for their safe travels.

**100 CLUB**
St Mary’s is currently selling tickets for a 100 Club that will be drawn next Friday at school. Refreshments will be available prior to and after the draw that is due to occur at approximately 6:00 pm. Please see the office for the purchase of tickets at $25.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL INTERIM REPORTS**
Middle School Interim Reports and meetings have been postponed till further notice.

God Bless

Mr Steve O’Halloran
Principal

“Before and After”
**From the REC – Kate Chilvers**

The following are our celebrations for the term. Families are most welcome to join us for these celebrations.

**School Liturgies – Term 1**
- Passion Sunday (Year 2) – Sunday 29 March 10:00am
- Holy Week Liturgy – Thursday 2 April 2:30pm

Vinsen is a farmer living in West Timor, Indonesia. While poor soil quality and erosion meant farming was always difficult for Vinsen, at least the weather was predictable. However, in recent years, weather patterns have become increasingly erratic in Vinsen’s region. In 2010 and 2011, Vinsen’s village was hit by heavy rains and strong winds, which destroyed crops and killed livestock. Incomes plummeted and famine spread throughout the area.

The farmers in Vinsen’s village learnt to terrace their land, helping them to stabilise land against landslide, combat erosion and harness valuable rainfall. They also learnt how to plant long-term crops in addition to short life-span crops like vegetables, which allows them to build a stable livelihood and survive crop fluctuations and unexpected weather changes. Since the YMTM Program, Vinsen’s income has increased by 25 percent and his family now lives without fear of food insecurity. “Before the program I was very anxious,” says Vinsen. “But now I do not worry. There is always cassava, banana and taro in the garden. We will not be hungry.” Vinsen is now passing on his knowledge by training others in his community and encouraging others to take part in the program.

Photo by Daniel Bumbak
Yr 8 Media

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**Thank You**

To parents, staff, Rio Tinto employees and ex-students who spent most of Sunday and Monday clearing the debris of trees and other items from the school grounds so we could open on Tuesday. It was a fantastic display of generous community spirit and as a school we are all indebted to you for your efforts.
St Mary Star of the Sea Parish
Parish Priest: Fr Mariusz
Assistant Priest: Fr Krys
Phone: 99411768

Weekend Mass Times:
Saturday 7pm
Sunday
8am & 10am

Fridays during Lent:
Stations of the Cross 7pm

NOTE: Changes to Mass times:
Saturday 14th March—6pm in school grounds
Saturday 21st March
NO MASS

From the Bursar

FEE CONCESSIONS
Holders of Centrelink Health Care and Pension Cards may be eligible to receive Fee Discounts. The card must be current and show the names of the children attending school. The discount can only be given to the person responsible for payment of the school fees. The discounts are available for students from Kindy to Year 10. Parents who hold either card and have children in Yrs 7 – 10 may also be eligible for the Education Dept Secondary Student Assistance. Claims for this discount must be lodged before Thursday 2nd April.

All families claiming fee discounts MUST complete new forms for 2015.

Please see the School Bursar, Anna Brooks. Bring your card with you to be copied and forms completed as soon as possible.

School Dentist

The School Dental Clinic provides a free and continuing dental service for each eligible enrolled school child. Children are eligible from Pre-primary until Year 11.

High school students up to year 11 are still eligible for dental treatment at the School Dental Clinic. For more information please contact Carnarvon Dental Therapy Centre 9941 1336.

The clinic is open for about 4 weeks each term. Dental team from Geraldton is currently in Carnarvon until 27th March 2015.

Next stint will be 08th June to 3rd July 2015.
Carnarvon Junior Cricket
Under 17’s Grand Final and Junior and In2Cricket Presentation Wind up is this Friday the 20th March from 4.30pm at the Festival Grounds.

Year Eight student Darron Cook delivering muffins baked by our Year 8 cooking class to some of Cyclone Olwyn volunteers and recovery teams.

Proud to be a
Waterwise School

KIDS CLUB
(PP to Year 7)

When: Saturday 21st March
Time: 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Carnarvon Christian School
Undercover area, Babbage Is. Rd.

For enquiries ring:
John Tomkins: 0428 527 032
Or Brian Fyffe: 9941 1571
Run by the Churches of Carnarvon

FREE.
Parents /carers welcome to attend.
Water games may be involved if weather is hot, please bring towel and/or bathers

2015 Banners in the Terrace Competition

Calling all keen Carnarvon Artists!
The Shire of Carnarvon invites individual artists or community groups to design a banner that best represents our Shire in the 2015 Banners in the Terrace competition.

The winning design will be digitally printed onto a banner and hung along side other banners from Shires across WA.

The winning artist(s) will be awarded $200 and will feature in the Northern Guardian with their winning design!!

Design Tips & Conditions
Make your banner dynamic; make use of strong, bright colours and bold lettering to stand out from the crowd! Although the banners look large on the ground, they are erected at a height that makes even large lettering and pictures seem small. Keep any written messages short and simple, and use large and clear lettering. Remember that the winning design will be digitally printed.

- Banners will not be displayed if they contain corporate advertising or images/words deemed inappropriate for general viewing.
- You must include the word ‘Carnarvon’ within your design.
- Entries completed in ‘PDF’ will not be accepted
- All entries must be completed using a suitable medium that can be easily converted into a PDF or Vector format image.
- Designs must be submitted electronically to Mel Pearson, our Community Development Officer, or as a hard copy to Shire reception, or via post to: Carnarvon Banners in the Terrace Competition
- Community Development
- Shire of Carnarvon
- PO Box 455, Carnarvon WA 6701

DEADLINE: 4pm Wednesday, 1st April 2015

For further information, contact Mel Pearson on 9941 0039 or email cdo3@carnarvon.wa.gov.au
A community venture to provide an opportunity for teachers, parents and friends of St Mary Star of the Sea to come together once a term on an informal basis and to raise money for school projects.

**ONLY 100 TICKETS TO BE SOLD**

$25.00 a TICKET

**PRIZES**

- Attendance prize 5% of total sales [max: $100.00]
- Second prize 15% of total sales [max: $300.00]
- First prize 30% of total sales [max: $600.00]

'Second and First prize paid in full if not in attendance.'

***CHEESE AND BISCUITS***

***COMPLIMENTARY FIRST DRINK - BEER OR WINE***

Friday 27th March: 5:30-9:00

School Staffroom + Under-croft area

Draw to take place between 6:30-7:00
St Mary’s Footy Tipping 2015
JOIN IN THE FUN! First Game Thurs 2nd April

AFL Season is near so get into the action by joining the annual footy tipping competition...
A huge prize pool of $4500!

Main Prizes
1st $2500 2nd $500 3rd $200 4th $100

Weekly Prize
$50 to the highest scoring tipper with the closest margin
(highest cumulative margin will determine winner if necessary)

Early Registration Prize
$50 - drawn from Regos paid by Thursday 26th March 2015

Check it out at www.footytips.com.au Competition Name “St Mary’s Carnarvon”

Played online before? Then just login with your old username and password - forgotten your password...
click the “Forgot Password?” tab and check your emails!

* Please note: If we receive less than 180 or more than 200 regos the prize pool may be reduced or increased!

Any queries please contact: Karen Gilbert 0428553390 or Robyn Bumbak 0437171040

PLEASE COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM BELOW AND SIGN UP ONLINE

Thank you for your support!

ST MARY’S FOOTY TIPPING REGISTRATION 2015

NAME: ______________________ ALIAS (name shown on ladder): ______________________

EMAIL: ______________________ PHONE No.: ______________________

Pd $50 CASH
CHEQUE PAYABLE TO “Carnarvon Catholic Parish”
ONLINE BSB: 016 610 A/No: 255972645 Reference: FTSurname&Initial

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please return form and payment to the St Mary’s school office by Thursday 26th of March to be eligible for EARLY REGISTRATION PRIZE draw!

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