Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

As we reach our midway point through Lent, it is timely to reflect on those promises initially made on Ash Wednesday and ask if we are living up to our vision of how we were going to intend to share this journey with Jesus. Perhaps some personal reflection is needed to get ourselves ‘back on track’ for the remainder of the Lenten period.

Lord, Your life never focussed on the accumulation
Of possessions but rather on the giving of Yourself
To people of less advantage.

Help me to move from my comfort zone this Lent
And be giving of myself in Your name.

Amen.

WELCOME

We welcome to St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School Mr Robert Notman, who is replacing Mrs Liz McBride as Middle School Science Teacher. Mr Notman will be joining St Mary’s staff next week and we look forward to him sharing his gifts and talents with us of the remainder of this year.

MEETINGS

Next week the St Mary’s School Board will meet on Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Staffroom, and the St Mary’s P & F Association meet on Thursday in the same venue at the same time. All are welcome to come along to the P & F Meeting.

ST MARY’S ST PATRICK’S EVENING

This Saturday evening, the 14th March, the annual St Mary’s St Patrick’s Social Event is occurring on the school grounds. This is a P & F event and a great way for the school community to meet early in the year. Tickets are available from the office.
God Bless

Mr Steve O’Halloran
Principal

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

Lenten Reconciliation
- MS#1-3 Thursday 12 March 1:40pm
- Year 4 & 5 Thursday 12 March 2:20pm
- Year 6 (during Confirmation Retreat)

St Patrick’s Day Celebration - Saturday 14 March 6:00pm
Passion Sunday (Year 2) – Sunday 29 March 10:00am
Holy Week Liturgy – Thursday 2 April 2:30pm

“Church and Clouds”
Photo by Levi Cosh Yr 8 Media
Middle School News

It’s Week 6 already and only three more weeks until the term break. Surveying the tone of the school, it looks like everyone has settled into school very well and focusing upon their learning. I know that some students in particular have been very busy getting ready for our St Patrick’s celebration this weekend. Thank you to our Year 10 Leadership students, Mr Hodgson and the P&F for organising this yearly event. It promises to be another success. Watch out for the yummy desserts that the students have made with Miss Slattery, along with some delicious spring rolls made by our Vietnamese Mums!

With the excitement of our magnificent Gascoyne River, we often forget the dangers associated with swimming in these waters. For those who are new to Carnarvon, please exercise great care if you allow your children to swim in these waters. Often when the river is flowing, it is difficult to estimate the strength of the current or potential threats in the water – this can include dead carcasses of animals, tree branches and other sharp objects as well as chemicals and other sewerage flowing through. Infections abound with swimming in these waters and the community still grieve for their lost loved ones taken by the river in the past. Please take utmost care when in or around the river.

I would like to remind our parents that at St Mary’s, we have a strict attendance policy. If your child’s attendance falls below 90%, the Education Act mandates the school to initiate an intervention plan. We are here to support our children at school but we do need you, the parent to ensure they get to school regularly and in a timely fashion. When they are away, they miss another day of crucial learning and development of skills. For holidays, events, camps etc… that families have scheduled during term time, please appreciate that it will be the student’s responsibility to maintain the workload and catch up on any missed work themselves. It is not the teachers’ responsibility to provide additional work or to spend time ensuring the student has caught up with any missed work whilst away from school (other than illness or other extraordinary circumstances). Please let us prioritise learning again and ensure that we take every opportunity presented for success in later life.

Interim Reports are being posted this week which will provide a snapshot to you about how your child is progressing in their courses. A request for interview does not necessarily indicate bad news – I myself, have requested to meet with all of my “new to St Mary’s” students’ parents so we can identify potential issues earlier and/or to celebrate success together! Parent/Student/Teacher evening is scheduled for Wednesday 18 March from 3:30 – 6:30pm. Please make your appointments for individual teachers through the front office as we cannot guarantee an appointment time on the night. It is very important that we see as many of our parents as possible, particularly if there is a concern noted in the report. Thank you.

I look forward to seeing you at St Pat’s this weekend. Take good care …

Kind regards

Sam Da Luz
Head of Middle School
We have people in our school who are allergic to many things. They may be allergic to insects, medicines, food and things that they breathe in and things that come into contact with their skin. Some of these allergies can make people very sick. If we are aware that there are children in classes with severe allergies, we can help keep them safe by understanding what happens to them and how they may be affected. Please remind your child/children to never share their food. Sometimes even letting someone touch what they are allergic to can cause a severe reaction.

Information to help you when arranging drop off and pick up of students at St Mary’s School.
Johnston Street – Stuart Street end is where buses pick up and drop off children – please keep this area free.
Johnston St. Main entrance to the school is an entry and exit point. Please take extra care here as this is also the main entrance to
- Carnarvon Hospital and Emergency.
- Rushton St. – entry and exit via the basketball courts.
- Stuart St. cul-de-sac – note: No Parking - drop off and pick up only.
- Egan Street – drop off and pick up outside JLC

It is a legal requirement that anyone riding a bicycle in Western Australia needs to wear a bike helmet. Please assist in keeping your children safe by ensuring that they are wearing their bike helmet to and from school.
Cyclone Information

General Information

St Mary’s school is situated in an area subject to cyclones. Each cyclone can present different problems. The cyclone season extends from November 1 to April 30, although cyclones have been experienced outside the cyclone season.

The State Emergency Service Co-ordinator advises the school when a cyclone is likely to affect this area. Announcements are also made over the ABC Radio network and the local station Triple 6LN at regular intervals. In most cases cyclones are located several days before this area may be affected. At this stage areas may be placed on ‘cyclone watch’. No action needs to be taken apart from following the weather reports.

In the event that Carnarvon goes on “Yellow Alert”, students will be required to leave school. Parents will be and notified and school buses sent for. If there is a “Yellow Alert” prior to school commencing there will be no school that day.

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.
I am writing to inform that there will be some slight variations to bus times due to the recent Gascoyne River Flow.

While the river is flowing at this height the low level crossing on Bibbawarra Road is closed and we have to take the long way via the Nine Mile Bridge on NW Coastal Highway.

**Bus 3** will arrive about 10 minutes later in the morning.
**Bus 4** will arrive between 10 and 15 minutes later in the afternoon.

There is water flowing across North and south River Roads at present but they are still passable.

I am monitoring the levels and remain in close contact with the shire and will notify you if conditions change.

Thanks you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.

Kind regards

Vicki Della Bella
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 alongside other banners from Shires across WA.

The winning artist/ 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 ‘Pen’ 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 completed on the template provided and can be submitted electronically to Mel Frearson, our Community Development Officer, or as a hard copy to Shire reception, or via post to: Carnarvon Banners in the Terrace Competition City of Community Development Shire of Carnarvon P.O. Box 459, Carnarvon WA 6701.

DEADLINE: 4pm Wednesday, 1st April 2015

For further information, contact Mel Frearson on 9941 0090 or email cdo3@carnarvon.wa.gov.au

Come & Dance

Would you like to be part of an exciting Carnarvon based dance production for 2015?

AUSDANCE WA’s ‘Future Landings’ project is looking for interested people of all ages and backgrounds.

Workshops

by Janine Oxenham
no dance experience needed

Mon, 9th Mar
4-5.30pm age 8-11
6-7.30pm 12+ adults

Tue, 10th Mar
4-5.30pm open class by G-DZ

Thu, 12th Mar
4-5.30pm age 8-11
6-7.30pm 12+ adults

CCC Recreation Centre on Whitlock Street

More info? Call Rosie: 0417 823 940

PRODUCTION PERPETUAL AND FAMILY FUN NIGHT

SUPPORTED BY CARNARvon MOTEL WA
14TH MARCH 2015

Catch Ya’ On At
CARNARvon SPEEDeway
Racing From 6.30pm

www.CARNARVOnSPEEDeway.COM.au

Proud to be a Waterwise School

Uniform Shop News
Opening Times for 2015

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 3.15pm to 4.15pm each week.
Come in and see Charmaine or contact the school office on 99412 483 for more details.
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 Patrick’s Night
Saturday 14th March 2015

The Year 10 Students participating in Certificate I in Leadership take great pleasure in inviting you to the upcoming St Patrick’s Night. The evening’s festivities will begin with The Commissioning Mass @ 6:00pm. The evening’s entertainment will include:

- A Children’s Treasure Hunt (so don’t forget to bring your flashlight)
- A Best Dressed Green Theme Door Prize
- Dinner and Dancing
- Gassy River Band will be performing on the night, plus special guest performances

Tickets available at the front office as well as Every Where Travel Carnarvon, so come one, come all, we look forward to sharing with you a great evening’s entertainment.

Adults $10.00  Children $5.00

St Mary Star of the Sea Carnarvon
Johnston Street
Carnarvon WA 6701
Phone: (08) 9941 1328
4 March 2015

Dear Parents

This year our St Pat’s Family night is on Saturday 14th March, 2015.

We will be requiring some help with preparations on the day. If you are able to assist, please return the note below to the school office by Tuesday 12th March, 2015.

Please tick the box alongside the items you can assist with, even if it is for one hour, it would be very much appreciated. Thanking you in anticipation.

P & F Committee and Year 10 Leadership Group

N A M E : 

Thursday
Donation of fruit and Veg to be delivered to the school office

Saturday
9.00am Preparing Salads
Setting up chairs, tables etc

6.00pm Cooking on BBQ’s

6.30pm Serve food in staffroom

Sunday
10.00am Clean up and pack away