IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 13th May  NAPLAN Yr 3, 5, 7 and 9
Lady Fatima Evening - 6pm
Thursday 14th May  NAPLAN Yr 3, 5, 7 and 9
Year 2 Assembly
Friday 15th May  Interschool Football/Netball Yr 5 and 6—1pm
Middle School Lock In
Wednesday 20th May  Board Meeting
Thursday 21st May  Confirmation Parent Meeting evening 7pm
P&F Meeting 7.30pm
Friday 22nd May  Interschool Football/Netball Yr 5 and 6—1pm
Sunday 24th May  Confirmation Commitment Mass—Yr 6—10am
Friday 29th May  SCHOOL CLOSED—CATHOLIC FAITH DAY
Monday 1st June  Public Holiday
Friday 3rd July  Last day of Term 2
Monday 20th July  First day of Term 3

Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

HELPING CHILDREN REGULATE THEIR OWN BEHAVIOUR
How can we communicate with children in ways that enhance their self-regulation – their ability to manage their own behaviour? One way is to use a sequence that involves reflecting, reacting (and giving reasons for our reactions), and redirecting young children.

By communicating in this way, we can help young learners understand why and how to follow rules—teaching them how to behave rather than just telling them to behave.

The result? Children are motivated to follow rules, even when adults are not present.

USING THE RRR SEQUENCE
Here’s how the personal message might look in a situation in which a child has taken another child’s toy.

One way to respond would be to say, “You have to share!” But consider what the child learns when we respond thoughtfully.

REFLECT
“You wanted that toy, too.”
We begin by reflecting on the child’s behaviour. By showing that we are listening and watching, we demonstrate respect for the child, which establishes a healthy groundwork for the conversation.
REACT
“I felt sad because you took the toy without asking”.
We react to the child’s behaviour, and give a reason for our reaction. This provides the child a chance to see their actions from the perspective of others and to understand why others might feel the way they do. Often, adults will give a rule without explaining why that rule is important, as if we expect children to be born knowing how to behave. Giving a reason is necessary to promote the child’s understanding of the consequence of their action.

REDIRECT
“Friends take turns. Try asking if you can please have the toy”.
The final step in a personal message is the statement of the rule or redirection. The final thing we say should be what we expect the child to do or what they should do.
This multi-step process takes practice, time and dedication. But when we consistently respond in this way, children begin to regulate their own behaviour. Why? Because they understand what good behaviour actually means.

EXPLICIT DIRECT INSTRUCTION
This week, ‘Good to Great Schools’ coaches from the USA and Australia have been at St Mary’s coaching and supporting teachers in the implementation of our English Explicit Direct Instruction (EDI) lessons. There has been considerable interest in this programme and in Term 3 we will providing parents with the opportunity to come into classes and witness EDI lessons in practice. There is a perception from some that EDI is the same as Direct Instruction. This is not the case. The two approaches are very different, however Direct Instruction is still an effective and efficient teaching methodology for some learning areas and skills.
Some encouraging results are already being achieved by the students through our EDI and we expect this trend to continue in 2015 and following years.

NAPLAN TESTING
NAPLAN testing is occurring this week in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. There has been much in the media of late regarding stress and anxiety some students feel when undertaking NAPLAN tests. This shouldn’t be the case and NAPLAN should be considered the same as any other of numerous types of assessment that students undergo in a school year. As mentioned is last week’s newsletter; a good night’s sleep and feeling comfortable and relaxed is the best preparation for any type of assessment.

FATIMA EVENING
Tonight the parish will be celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Fatima with a mass and procession beginning at 6:00 pm at Our Lady of the Sea Parish followed by a meal at school. The cost is $10 for adults and $5 for children. All are welcome to come and enjoy the evening.

YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY
Our Year 2 class will be presenting tomorrow’s assembly in the hall beginning at 2:30. All are welcome to come along.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN
This is a much anticipated evening for our Year 7 and 8 students occurring this Friday. Fun and games are planned for the students who will be released on the following Saturday morning. Thank you to the staff who have organized and coordinated this event for our Year 7 and 8 students.

God Bless

Mr Steve O’Halloran
Principal
The following are our celebrations for the term. Families are most welcome to join us for these celebrations.

**School Liturgies – Term 2**
- Confirmation Commitment (Year 6 Class) – Sunday 24 May 10:00am
- Whole School Mass: Communio (Year 5 Coordinating) – Thursday 28 May 1:45pm
- First Holy Communion – Sunday 7 June 10:00am
- Middle School Celebration (MS#5) – Sunday 28 June 10:00am

**Events**

Middle School Lock-in

The Middle School Lock-in will take place this term from Friday 15 to Saturday 16 May. There is a required briefing session at lunchtime this Thursday for all students attending. Please refer to Information Letter distributed last week for more details.

**Parish Notices**

This term preparation begins for two Sacraments: Confirmation and Holy Communion. Please be aware that Sacraments are celebrated within the parish community; the role of St Mary’s School is to facilitate and support the children attending our school to prepare to receive these Sacraments. The school does not make decisions about the Sacraments, this responsibility remains with the parish priest. Any general questions about the program can be addressed to the class teachers or REC. For any questions or enquiries we are unable to answer we will direct families to Fr Mariusz or Fr Chris. Please refer to the following information regarding meetings and activities for the preparation of children to receive these Sacraments.

First Holy Communion
- Parent Meeting & Children Sacramental meetings: various dates/times
- Parent-Child Meeting: Thursday 4 June 6pm
- Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Sunday 7 June 10am

Confirmation
- Parent Meeting: Thursday 21 May 7pm
- Commitment Mass: Sunday 24 May 10am
- Parent-Child Meeting: Thursday 23 July 6pm
- Sacrament of Confirmation: Sunday 2 August 10am

Children’s Liturgy
St Mary’s Parish is happy to announce that Children’s Liturgy will recommence as of this Sunday 25 April. Children will now be able to participate in a children’s Liturgy during the 10am Mass for the remainder of this term.

Altar Servers:
All children who have previously been involved as Altar Servers in St Mary’s Parish are invited to commit to serving again this year. A letter with more detail about this program has been sent home. If you would like your child to continue in this parish service please return the reply slip by the end of the week.

Church Photo by Jessica Fernihough Year 8 Media
Dear Parents,
This week we have a number of visitors in the Primary School from the Good to Great Schools Project. Good to Great Schools is coordinating our Explicit Direct Instruction (EDI) approach. This week each class has been visited by Joe Ybarra from San Diego, Lara Altimira from Broome and Shaun Joseph from Perth – they are working with the teachers watching lessons and providing coaching. It has been really interesting going to all of the classes and viewing the EDI lessons this week. Parents if you do not do so regularly may I suggest that you ask your children what they have been learning this week. You might be lucky enough to hear all about; Letters and their sounds in (Kindy & Pre Primary), Identifying text type (Year 1), Improving sentences through adding or deleting words (Yr2), Onomatopoeia (Year 3), Interpreting Poetic Language (Year 4), Interpreting images in text (Year 5) and Main Idea and Key Points (Year 6). If you really want to be surprised ask about complex and compound sentences from Year 3 upwards!

Next week we have some more guests to view our EDI implementation Mr Noel Pearson (Chairman Good to Great Schools), Mr Tom Stephens (Board Member Good to Great schools) and Dr Tim McDonald (Director of the Catholic Education Office).

Kind Regards

Trudy Cox
Mrs Trudy Cox
Head of Primary School

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Mother’s Day Morning Tea

Last Friday, we held our annual Mother’s Day morning tea in the school staffroom. The staff at St Mary’s supplied morning tea for our Mum’s, Grandmothers, Nana’s and Carers. Even some Dad’s came too!

The staff and our visitors enjoyed a lovely morning.
A Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea Party!

Last Friday afternoon the Pre-Primary children hosted a Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea Party for their beautiful Mummy’s (plus two brothers and three Nana’s!)

At the beginning of the Tea Party, the children greeted their Mums and accompanied them into the classroom to help them find a seat. When everyone had been seated the afternoon commenced with the children singing a song dedicated to their Mums “I love you Mummy, my dearest Mummy”.

The children then got snuggly on their Mum’s laps and listened to two stories about Mums read beautifully by Mrs Stretch. The children eagerly helped their Mummy’s decorate a cup cake each with delicious icing and sprinkles. They then served their Mum’s a refreshing pink drink!

The Pre-Primary students then presented their Mum’s with a special gift, a handmade heart necklace.

The afternoon concluded with a delightful rendition of ‘I love Mummy’ sung by the Pre-Primary children. Thank you to all of the Pre-Primary Mums’, Nanas and brothers who attended our Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea Party.
FEAST
OF
OUR LADY OF
FATIMA

Our Parish has celebrated this Feast with the Portuguese community for many years with a beautiful Mass followed by a Rosary Procession and ending with a Social meal. We invite everyone to come and join us on -

Wednesday 13th May
Mass at 6pm
Followed by the Procession and meal

Cost: $10 / adult   $5 Primary school age

Meat, some beer, wine, cool drinks and bread will be supplied.
We ask that you bring one of the following to share:
Salad   Pasta   Quiche   Vegetable bake   Chicken

Everyone is invited. Any money raised will go towards the Parish Building fund but the main aim is that we all join together to enjoy each others company and celebrate this wonderful feast with our Portuguese community.

If you have any queries please contact Yvonne Fahl on 99418088
Primary News

Our Year 4 student, Grace Nuttall has been shortlisted in the Write4fun Australian Schools Poetry and Short Story Competition. Grace received an Achievement Award and her story is going to be published in a book called "The Write Track", due to be released in October of this year. She’ll know by the end of May if she is a major prize winner of $1000-00. Congratulations Grace!

The Lost Dog

By Grace Nuttall

In a busy city called Paris, there lived a boy named Charlie, who lived with his parents. One day, on the way to school he found a dog. He didn’t have a collar on, so Charlie decided to keep it. He snuck down a narrow street that no-one ever went through and tied the dog to a window with rope that he found on the floor.

At school, later that day, he drew the dog on a piece of paper. A friend called Stanley looked over and whispered to Charlie, “What breed is it? Is it a poodle?” he said. “I love them!”

“No! It doesn’t look anything like a poodle!” said Charlie. At lunch, he thought of a name to give the dog.

Stanley said, “What about Nelly?”

“No!” said Charlie.

“What about Spike?”

“It’s not even Spiky! Yes…I got it …it will be Scruffy!” shouted Charlie.

“Yes, that’s a great name!” said Stanley.

After school, Stanley and Charlie rushed to the narrow street where Charlie put Scruffy before school. “You might want to wash it. It’s got flees,” whispered Stanley, so the dog didn’t hear.

“Don’t worry I will wash Scruffy,” replied Charlie. They went to the pet shop to get a collar. The collar was red. When they walked to Charlie’s house, Charlie remembered something. “We can’t take animals in the house!” Charlie and Stanley were sad.

That night he tried to go to sleep, but he couldn’t. He crept outside with his blanket and pillow and slept with the dog. At sunrise he ran on his tiptoes very quietly and hopped in bed. His heart was beating like mad, but it soon settled.

On the weekend, Stanley came over. They thought about where they could keep Scruffy and where they could keep him safe. Then Stanley thought of an idea! “Why don’t you build a dog house in your back yard? You’re good at building!”

“Yes! That’s a great idea!” yelled Charlie excitedly.

They strolled into town and got some wood, paint, screws and tools. The colours of the paint Charlie and Stanley picked were deep blue as the ocean and yellow, bright as the sun.

They rushed home and painted the wood with the colours they picked. Charlie screwed, nailed, hammered, and lastly, carved Scruffy’s name at the top of the dog house, while Stanley put some pillows in it. They let it dry. That night, scruffy was safe and Charlie slept well.
St Mary Star of the Sea Parish

Parish Priest : Fr Mariusz Adamczyk
Assistant Priest : Fr Chris
Phone: 99411768

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

EP Classes
Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

P&F News
P&F are running a stall at this years Tropicool Festival to assist in fundraising.
The stall will need to be manned over the 2 days (29th & 30th May), and we are looking for parents to volunteer to assist.
In the school office is a timetable and we would ask anyone who can help to sign up to a time. The week-end has been broken into 1 hour segments so that each person does not have to spend too long at the stall.

We will also be selling showbags.

Thanks in advance
P&F committee

Carnarvon Junior Soccer Association
A Soccer clinic is being run by Sport and Recreation on Monday 18th May at the Festival Grounds.

Mini Roos: 4.30-4.50
U10's: 5.00 - 5.30
U15's: 5.30 - 6.00

All players and non players welcome!