Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

Each year, everyone in our school community has the opportunity to pray and reflect together with a group of children who receive the sacrament of Confirmation. It is an occasion when these young people, who have been instructed in basic Christian doctrine, publicly profess their faith for all to hear; they proclaim the faith they were unable to articulate at Baptism. They are ‘anointed’ with the Holy Spirit as Jesus was ‘anointed’ with the Holy Spirit at his Baptism.

As we sit in St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church this Sunday, we will witness our Year 6 children go forth from Confirmation, anointed, signed with Christ’s cross, gifted with peace and empowered for service. We can continue to pray for them in the words of the Celebrant who lays hands on them:

\[
\text{Send your Holy Spirit upon them } \\
\text{To be their helper and guide. } \\
\text{Give them the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding,} \\
\text{The spirit of Right Judgement and Courage,} \\
\text{The spirit of knowledge and reverence.} \\
\text{Fill them with the spirit of Wonder and Awe} \\
\text{In your presence.} \\
\text{Amen.}
\]

PUPIL FREE DAY
There is a pupil free, staff development day on Friday, August 7.

Prayer:
Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that You and I together can't handle.

Amen.
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
It may be obvious, but the detrimental effect of non-attendance to school on learning is significant. In 1991, Stephen Ceci reviewed the child development literature from around the world concerning how children who attend school learn various cognitive skills differently than those that did not attend school. The differences were profound. Controlling carefully for age, and other factors, it was found that children that attended schools were found more likely to:

- Focus their attention more fully;
- Perform better on figure-ground perceptual problems;
- Use visual depth perception cues more adroitly;
- Identify abstract patterns in visual stimuli, and locate hidden figures in pictures;
- Group items on a conceptual or taxonomic basis, and naturally chink items when memorization is the goal;
- Develop strategies for memorization, such as rehearsal, recoding, and recitation;
- Use words spontaneously to help them describe and solve problems;
- Display superior memory performances;
- Be advantaged by up to 6 IQ points per year higher when contrasted against peers not at school.

Going to school dramatically alters the way students organize their perceptions, language skills, and knowledge storage systems. (Hattie, Yates, 2014)

KINDERGARTEN INTERVIEWS
Currently enrolments are being taken for Kindergarten 2016. Interviews will be conducted during August. Parents of siblings already at St Mary’s still need to enrol their child. Interviews however, may not be necessary.

BISHOP JUSTIN VISIT
Bishop Justin visited St Mary’s this morning before moving to the Pilbara to conduct Confirmation Masses in other parishes. The Bishop spoke with staff and the students preparing to make their Confirmation this Sunday.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos will be conducted on Thursday, 13th August. Students will be expected to be in full school uniform on the day. A reminder that the school uniform shop located on the school grounds is open each Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 – 4:30 pm.

Order envelopes will be going home this Monday - printed uniquely for each student. Every student must return their envelope even if they are not buying photos. Family photo order forms are located at the school office and will be handed out on request.

BOOK WEEK PARADE
Bookweek is occurring Week 24th – 28th August. The culmination of Bookweek, and a highlight for the children, is the Bookweek Parade occurring on Thursday 27th August. This year there are two themes for students to choose from, those being ‘Under the Sea’, and ‘Books Light Up Our World’.

God Bless

Mr Steve O’Halloran
Principal

School Reports Semester 1
School reports were made available electronically last term through the SEQTA program. Please contact the school office if you have any difficulty logging in or you would like a print out of your report.
Dear Parents,
This week I would like to raise the Cyber issue. Recently a few parents have raised issues in regards to student’s use of the internet. Kids today have access to and are accessible by many millions of people worldwide via the vast array of social media, websites, applications and online-games. The unprecedented amount of personal information available on these sites makes them a perfect place for people who would happily identify their victims and gain their trust.

Other identified dangers include exposure to inappropriate content, cyber bullying and harassment, exchange of inappropriate images and identity theft. Children are often not aware that their words and or photos, which may have been intended for a small audience, sometimes find their way to a larger one, often with both the unexpected and undesirable consequences.

We have arranged for one of the local police officers to come and speak with our Year 5 & 6 students around this issue and inappropriate use of social media next Wednesday 5th at 2pm, parents of year 5 & 6 students are invited to attend this session also (in the school hall).

I also discovered this website where leading Child & Adolescent Psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg provides answers to all the questions you might have about protecting your children and supporting them. [https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/parent-resources/esafety-for-parents-cyberbullying](https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/parent-resources/esafety-for-parents-cyberbullying)

Kind Regards
Trudy Cox
Head of Primary

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The Year Ten Hospitality class have been cooking up a storm.

This week with Mr Notman, Satay chicken was on the menu. This was a very authentic and thoroughly enjoyed by all. If you would like a copy of the recipe, please contact the school office.

Mikayla Petera showing her skills
GARDENING CLUB
As part of the Lamp Lighters program all students at St. Mary’s school are invited to participate in a new garden club that will be working on restoring the Sacred Garden to its former glory. The garden club will run for half an hour on Mondays and Tuesdays, straight after school. This will involve weeding, repairing borders, paths and replanting the herb gardens. The garden club will commence on Monday 22\textsuperscript{nd} June and Tuesday 23\textsuperscript{rd} June, 2015 and will be ongoing until the end of the year. Students can volunteer for one session or come along every week and they can choose the day that suits them the best. Parents, grandparents and siblings are also welcome. Permission slips are available at the front office or from Mrs Griffith’s room. Come along and have some great fun while creating something beautiful!!!!!

Book Week 2015
24th—28th August

THEME: Books Light Up Our World/ Under the Sea

PARADE:
Thursday 27th August 9am
Kindy—Year 6.

Come dressed as something to represent books lighting up the world or under the sea.

Proud to be a
Waterwise School

EP Classes
Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

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
Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school office, JLC or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

mta modern teaching aids
Congratulations to Darron Cook Year 8 for receiving Beau of the Ball at the recent Naidoc Ball. Pictured here with ex-student Noreena Bero.