



# School Newsletter

Term 2 Issue 8

15th June 2016

St Mary Star of the Sea School Board			
Fr Mariusz Adamczyk	Ex-Officio	Karen Gilbert	Treasurer
Steve O'Halloran	Ex-Officio	Jim Andreoli	Member
John Nuttall	Chairperson		Vice Chair
Craig Zwetsloot	Member	John Nuttall	P&F Rep
Robyn Bumbak	Member	Marie Gane	Member
Sue Jordan	Member		Parish Rep

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Monday 13th June to Friday 17th June**

**Wednesday 15th June**

**Thursday 16th June**

**Friday 17th June**

**Thursday 23rd June**

**Friday 24th June**

**Sunday 26th June**

**Monday 27th June to Thursday 30th June**

**Tuesday 28th June to Thursday 30th June**

**Friday 1st July**

**Tuesday 19th July**

**Yr 9 and Yr 10 Exams**

**Board Meeting 7.30pm**

**P & F Meeting 7.30pm - All welcome**

**Interschool Cross Country Yr 3 to Yr 6**

**Year One Assembly 2pm**

**Winter Carnival Yr 5 & Yr 6**

**MS1 & MS2 Homeroom Mass 10am**

**Year 10 Work Experience**

**Year 9 Camp**

**NAIDOC Liturgy - Yr 5, NAIDOC activates and Lunch**

**Last day of Term 2**

**First day of Term 3**



Father of all mercies  
We ask that you would bless  
the youngest and littlest of learners,  
the most helpless and powerless of persons,  
with Your infinite and loving mercy,  
granting them the strength to learn, concentrate,  
and act in love towards  
their teachers and fellow students.  
We also ask that You would watch over them,  
at home and at school  
and give them proper direction  
so that they may learn  
of Your wonderful virtues.

We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

There is much debate about the use of technology in schools to improve student learning. The hard evidence is that if you want to improve student learning, it begins with teachers improving pedagogy, that is, how teachers teach. The following are some myths about IT in education.

**Myth #1: New technology is causing a revolution in education.** Actually, despite all the gadgets, classroom fundamentals have changed very little. Bill Gates said, “*Just giving people devices has a really horrible track record*”. What matters is teachers, their instructional strategies, and how they interact with students. **Computers and other pieces of technology are the *medium* through which instruction passes and have no more influence on student achievement than a grocery delivery truck has on our nutrition.** Situations where researchers have found positive effects from technology (blended learning is one) can almost always be traced back to how teachers use the technology to supplement or amplify their pedagogy. Three areas have been particularly disappointing in terms of the supposed impact of technology:

1. Multimedia instruction accommodating different learning styles: learning styles are not a robust foundation for customising instruction.

2. Multimedia facilitating constructivist and discovery approaches: high-achieving students can benefit, but lower-achieving students do better with direct instruction.

Multimedia providing students with autonomy and control over instructional sequence: very few students get this benefit; for most students, it has a negative effect.

**The bottom line is that the medium seldom influences teaching, learning, and education, nor is it likely that one single medium will ever be the best for all situations.**

**Myth #2:** Today’s ‘digital natives’ want a new style of education. In fact, there is little hard evidence that today’s youth are innately tech savvy, avid multitaskers and collaborators, naturals with the language of technology, demanding instant gratification, and more. Yes, young people use their devices and the Internet heavily for personal empowerment, staying connected with friends, and entertainment, but their use of technology for creating content for academic purposes is limited. One study of tech-rich European countries found that only 36% of 16-year-olds said they knew more about the Internet than their parents. Studies in other developed countries found that there is actually no such thing as a generation of digital natives.

**Myth #4:** Technology is rewiring our brains in a harmful way. There’s little evidence that devices and the Internet are making us dumber. In fact, being able to outsource retrievable memory items to Google may be making us smarter. But there is evidence that when children spend more than 1-2 hours a day looking at screens, they tend to gravitate toward shallow information-processing behaviours and develop patterns of multitasking that increase distractibility and depress executive functioning. More research is needed to draw firmer conclusions.

**Myth #5:** Young people don’t read anymore. This usually refers to book reading and there has been somewhat of a decline across the developed world. However, children are doing a lot of reading on their devices, much of it for pleasure, so the total amount remains quite high. Technology can help students learn, however the most effective and efficient way to improve student achievement is how teachers teach. St Mary’s EDI approach is a platform by which teachers make the most of their time in class with students helping them learn.

### **INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY**

The Interschool Cross Country is being held this Friday at the Christian School. Participants from Year 3 – 6 will be representing St Mary’s School. All parents and friends are welcome to go and support the runners.

### **WINTER CARNIVAL**

The Interschool Winter Carnival is being held next Friday, June 24. Students from Year 5 – 6 will be competing in various winter games against teams from other schools in the region. Parents and guardians are encouraged to come along and support the students

God Bless



Mr Steve O’Halloran  
Principal



**Friday 1st July**  
**Last Day of Term 2**

**Tuesday 19th July**  
**First Day of Term 3**

## Head of Primary School

### Telethon Adventurers

This time last year I was fortunate enough to be a part of the Telethon Adventurers Man Vs Wild Remote Kimberley Trek. The foundation which raises funds and awareness for childhood brain cancer was started by Rick Parish, an Ex SAS soldier, whose son passed away at the age of four due to brain cancer. The trek included a 60km hike through rugged Kimberley terrain 250km West of Kununurra. We were airlifted in and out and took only what we needed to trek and survive for seven days. It was one of the most rewarding yet physically and mentally challenging things I have ever done. One day we walked 12km through harsh terrain with 20kg packs on our backs, another day we abseiled a 60m waterfall with minimal equipment. We hunted for food and worked as a team to safely cross water holes and deep gorges, we climbed high peaks and mountain ranges, we were confronted with crocodiles, challenged by bulls, fearful of snakes and at the same time made some amazing memories.

I wouldn't say I am a massive fan of Facebook but one thing that is really good about it is that it lets you revisit memories from the past as they appear on your timeline. This week it has allowed me to reflect back on those memories and remember the little life lessons Rick shared with us on the trek. It has been a timely reminder to really appreciate the things I have in life. There was not a day that went by on that trek where I did not have tears in my eyes as Rick shared with us the pain and suffering that his child went through, the challenges around treating childhood cancer and the good things that the Telethon Adventurers are doing in providing funds for research. Needless to say I got home from that trek and gave my kids a huge hug.

As parents we celebrate our children's successes but we often get caught up in the things they can't do or the things we wish they could do. The message I took from the trek was simple - time is precious, our children are precious, love them as they are and for who they are becoming!

### Year 5/6 Sports

Last Friday the Year 5 and 6 students competed against Carnarvon Community College in Football and Netball in preparation for their upcoming Winter Sports Carnival. The students represented the school to a high standard and played their respective sports with much enthusiasm. Thank you to the parents who came to help out and support our teams.

The Winter Sports Carnival will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June and more information will go home with students soon. In preparation for this carnival the football team will be training on Monday afternoon, 2:45-3:45pm.

### Primary Interschool Cross Country

The students have been put through their paces by Mr Kent over recent weeks as he has looked towards finalising St Mary's Primary Cross Country Team for this year. They will be representing the school this Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Information has been sent home to the parents of competitors. We wish them all the best and know that their hard work put in will pay off.

### Tropicool Festival

It was fantastic to see so many St Mary's students with their families at the Tropicool festivities last weekend. As a newcomer to this town it was great to see so much community pride and enthusiasm and I felt fortunate to be a part of it.

Kind regards



Mr Andrew Gammon  
Head of Primary School



# EXAM SCHEDULE FOR STUDENTS— WEEK 8, SEMESTER I, 2016

## MONDAY 13 JUNE

### **8:25am - Hall**

#### **Period 1 (8:25 – 9:10am)**

Year 9: English Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: RE Exam – 2 hrs

#### **Period 2 (9:10 – 9:55am)**

Year 9: English Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: RE Exam – 2 hrs

#### **Period 3 (9:55 – 10:40am)**

Year 9: English Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: RE Exam – 2 hrs

## TUESDAY 14 JUNE

### **10:45am – Hall**

#### **Period 4 (11:00 – 11:45am)**

Year 9: Science Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: Humanities Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 5 (11:45 – 12:30pm)**

Year 9: Science Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: Humanities Exam – 2.5

### **Lunchtime:**

Yr 9 – 1:00pm

Yr 10 – 1:30pm

## WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE

### **8:25am – Hall**

#### **Period 1 (8:25 – 9:10am)**

Year 9: RE Exam – 1.5 hrs

Year 10: Maths Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 2 (9:10 – 9:55am)**

Year 9: RE Exam – 1.5 hrs

Year 10: Maths Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 3 (9:55 – 10:40am)**

Year 9: RE Exam – 1.5 hrs (Finish 10:10am)

Year 10 Maths Exam – 2.5 hrs (Finish 11:10am)

## THURSDAY 16 JUNE

### **8:25am – Hall**

#### **Period 1 (8:25 – 9:10am)**

Year 9: Humanities Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: English Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 2 (9:10 – 9:55am)**

Year 9: Humanities Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: English Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 3 (9:55 – 10:40am)**

Year 9: Humanities Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: English Exam – 2.5 hrs (Finish 11:10am)

## FRIDAY 17 JUNE

### **8:25am – Hall**

#### **Period 1 (8:25 – 9:10am)**

Year 9: Maths Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: Science Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 2 (9:10 – 9:55am)**

Year 9: Maths Exam – 2 hrs

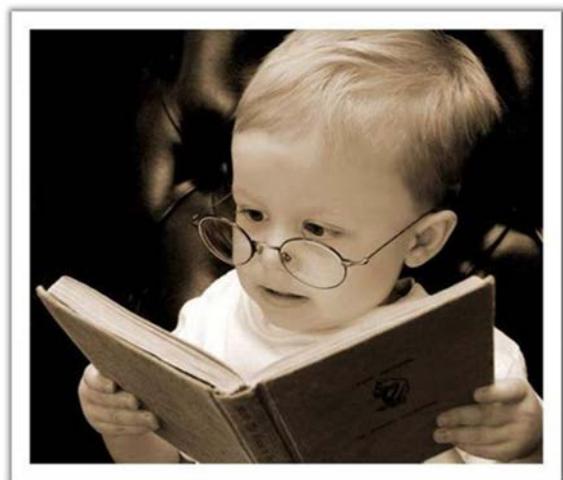
Year 10: Science Exam – 2.5 hrs

#### **Period 3 (9:55 – 10:40am)**

Year 9: Maths Exam – 2 hrs

Year 10: Science Exam – 2.5 hrs (Finish 11:10am)

**HAPPY STUDYING EVERYONE 😊**



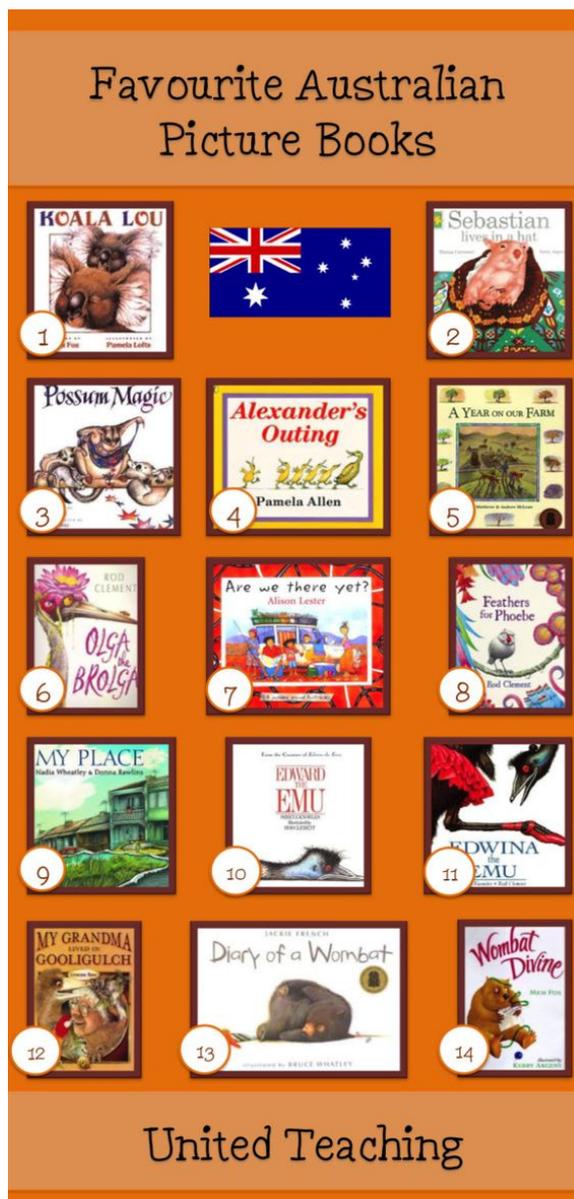
# Book Week August 20 -26

## Whole School Parade Thursday 25th August 8:30am

### Australia! Story Country

It's important not to get too fixed on what makes a book suit this 2016 Children's Book Week theme. Australia IS a Story Country. Our stories come from all over: from our own indigenous people, from migrants and refugees who have come to live here, from books, movies and orally transmitted stories.

Let's encourage our children to immerse themselves in a range of stories, to read them, listen to them, watch them, think about them, and go on to share them with others! Almost any story with an Australian link of some kind (character, setting, author, illustrator etc) is suitable for this theme.



### Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is opened every Tuesday and Thursday from 2.15pm to 3.15pm.

Please see Charmaine for all your uniform needs.

### School Dentist

Carnarvon Dental Therapy Centre is closed until **9/08/2016**. In case of emergency please contact Community Dental Clinic at Carnarvon Hospital **9941 6690** or a private dentist.

If you have any queries, please call us in Geraldton on 9921 4218, 9923 1289 or 9921 4373 or email to [AllendaleDTC@dental.health.wa.gov.au](mailto:AllendaleDTC@dental.health.wa.gov.au)

## Hooray it's Monday!

The Year 3 Class has been studying special days (Religious Days, International Days and Fun Days) in History. They decided wouldn't it be great to design their own special fun day! We research what fun days are scheduled for June and selected Hooray it's Monday! They then brainstormed ways we could celebrate the day and approached Mr O'Halloran with their options. A lunch time "disco" was selected and the Year 3 class developed a play list. Yesterday we celebrated Hooray it's Monday with the primary School students dancing up a storm.

Mrs Cox



# Kindergarten

## **KINDERGARTEN INTERVIEWS**

Currently enrolments are being taken for Kindergarten 2017. 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.

## **PRE-KINDERGARTEN 3 YEAR OLD ENROLMENTS**

Enrolments for children to begin the 3 Year Old pre-kindergarten programme are currently being taken. All parents that have children turning 3 prior to attending the Kindergarten programme are welcome to contact the school for further information.

# News



## Parish News

Parish Priest : Fr Mariusz  
Phone: 99411768

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

Father Mariusz is inviting any parents and/or their children who would like to be Baptised in the Catholic Church to contact him on 99411768 at the Presbytery.

## Trash Test Dummies

Please be advised that Year 2-6 will be attending the play this Monday, 20th June not 29th June as previously indicated.

Please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform on this day.

## Semester One Reports

Semester One Reports will be due to parents via Seqta on the last day of term, Friday 1st July.

Please contact the school office 99411328 or via email [admin@smc.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@smc.wa.edu.au) if you require your Parent Log In and password in readiness to view your child's report.

Thank You  
Mrs Faithfull

# canteen

Thank you to the ladies who have volunteered this term.

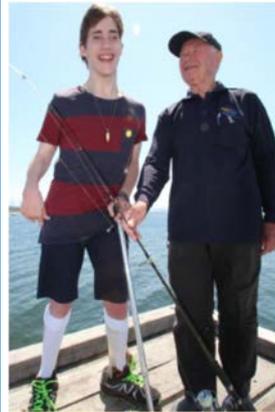
Volunteers are invited every Tuesday and Thursday from 10.15am to 1pm on a roster basis. If you would like to be involved please contact the School Canteen on 9941 2483.

Thursday 16th June - Wilma Porter  
Koby and Jordie's Mum

Tuesday 21st June - Lynne Freeman  
Lachie, Liam and Chloe's Grandma

Thursday 23rd June - Bridget, Milly and Jack  
Redden's Nana

Thank you  
Charmaine



## CHEVRON FISHABILITY DAY NORTH

Fishability (Formerly Fishers with Disabilities) is coming to a town near you!

- The Fishability team are heading North to deliver the inaugural "Chevron Fishability Day North" event to children and adults in the communities requiring support to experience fishing.
- We will be holding fishing activities at various locations and anyone with a disability is welcome to come along and experience recreational fishing.
- All equipment and bait is provided and activities are FREE of charge.
- Volunteers will share knowledge and information and assist with hands on fishing skills and use of equipment. Modified equipment will be available to participants requiring special needs.
- Participants are requested to be accompanied by support workers to assist with personal needs. An adult must accompany all participants under the age of 18.
- All Fishability Volunteers have Working with Children and Police Clearances.

Places are limited and booking is essential please contact the Jetty Fishing Coordinator: Ray Benetti on (08) 9389 6849 or 0481 222 532 or email [Rben.fvd@hotmail.com](mailto:Rben.fvd@hotmail.com)

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY CHEVRON

Fishers with Disabilities Assoc. Inc.  
PO Box 290  
WOODVILLE WA 6026  
Tel: 9424 417 073  
Email: [dl.cherylfurce@fish.wa.gov.au](mailto:dl.cherylfurce@fish.wa.gov.au)  
[www.fisherswithdisabilities.org.au](http://www.fisherswithdisabilities.org.au)  
ABN 44 155 057 728

Date	Time	Place	Notes
Tues 21/6	1:30 to 3:30	Learmonth Jetty, Exmouth	
Wed 22/6	2:00 to 4:00	The Fascine, Carnarvon	
Thurs 23/6	1:00 to 3:00	Museum Jetty, Geraldton	
Friday 24/6	9:30 to 11:30	Museum Jetty, Geraldton	BBQ at midday
Friday 24/6	1:00 to 3:00	Museum Jetty, Geraldton	BBQ at midday



# "You and Me" PLAYGROUP



**FRIDAYS 9:30AM-12:00PM**

**Who:** For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families with children 0-4 years old.

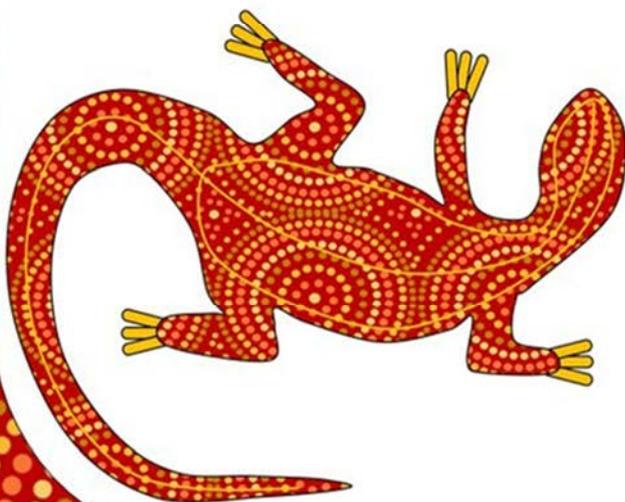
**Where:** 9 Butcher Street (In the playgroup building)

**When:** Starts, Friday 27th May 2016

**FREE**

For more Information please contact Rebecca on 0438949394 or  
[faithfull.rebecca@cathednet.wa.edu.au](mailto:faithfull.rebecca@cathednet.wa.edu.au)

Reading, Painting, Singing, Craft, Dancing and Much More!



Come and  
join in the  
**FUN!**