FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 3rd February  
Welcome Mass and Staff Commissioning  
1:30pm in the School Hall
Tuesday 7th February  
Primary School Parent Evening
Thursday 9th February  
Middle School Parent Evening
Friday 10th February  
Middle School Assembly - 1pm in the School Hall  
Primary School Assembly - 1:50pm in the School Hall  
Board Meeting  
Pink Stumps Day  
Middle School Assembly - 1pm in the School Hall  
Primary School Assembly - Year Five  
1:50pm in the School Hall

Start of School Year Prayer

God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children as they begin a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers and staff.  
Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.
Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

Welcome back to St Mary’s for another year of learning. A special welcome to new families to our school community. Communication is the key to a good relationship so if there are any issues or concerns that arise, please contact the school immediately.

We continue our focus at school this year on providing the optimum environment for children to learn as best they can. As with any two-way interaction though, it requires both parties to be on-board for best effects to occur. I reminded all students of this yesterday, and as a school and staff we will do our best, however the ones we are doing this for, the students, need to engage, participate and expend a fair bit of effort to maximize their learning potential. There’s no magic learning dust or pills at St Mary’s, it mostly comes down to hard work, effort, practice, persistence and giving your best to make strong progress.

Parents have a role to play in this also. From the evidence gathered on how students learn over the past 50 years, there are some very clear findings on the greatest influences on a child’s learning. The most significant impact on how a student learns at school is not the teacher, the curriculum, class sizes, homework or ability groups. In fact, some of those just mentioned have very little or no impact on student learning, such as class size and homework.

The most influential factor on the capacity for a student to learn at school is the home environment; this accounts for approximately a half of the child’s learning potential, teacher and teaching, the next greatest influence, accounts for about 30%. There is a big discrepancy here; if you really want your child to well at school and improve their grades, it begins first at home. A good nights’ sleep, good nutrition, consistent and fair discipline, plenty of outside play and limited time on devices all go to help providing students with a stable, supportive home life that provides a springboard for learning.

OPENING MASS
Tomorrow at 1:30 pm there will be a Beginning of the Year/ Commissioning Mass in the School Hall. All are welcome to come along and celebrate the start of the new school year.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS
Parent teacher meetings are being held next week. I encourage all parents to come and listen to class teachers disseminate information and expectations for the year ahead.

GROUNDS THANKS
Many have been working hard to ensure the school is in good shape to start the year, none more so that Mr Peter Brooks. Peter has done a great job ensuring the environment and surrounds of St Mary’s look their best. Thank you.

God Bless

Steve O’Halloran
Principal
Parish News
Commencing on Sunday 19th February, Mass will be conducted at 9am only each Sunday.

Please note that from this date there will no Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am Mass services provided.

Father Mariusz

Primary School Parent Information Night - Tuesday 7th February

Important information regarding curriculum, operations, classroom expectations and opportunities will be given on the night. It is also an ideal time to acquaint yourself with our staff.

Please see session times below

4.30 pm Pre Primary
4.50 pm Year 1
5.10 pm Year 2
5.30 pm Year 3
5.50 pm Year 4
6.10 pm Year 5
6.30 pm Year 6

Kind regards
Mr Gammon

Homework Classes
Homework classes commence next Tuesday the 7th February.
They are then each Tuesday and Thursday. Please contact the school office for further information.

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.
PCYC News

Badminton:
Commencing 06th February 2017
Learn how to play badminton and verse your friend!
All Equipment supplied.

SENIORS:
Monday & Tuesdays 7pm - 9pm
$5 per session

JUNIORS:
Tuesdays 5:30pm - 6:30pm
$3 per session

JUNIOR BOXING
For ages 8 - 12
Commencing 15th February 2017
Wednesdays
4:30pm - 5:30pm
$5 per class

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact us on 9941 4116
or email carnarvonpcyc@wapyc.com.au

Carnarvon Junior Netball
Pre-Season Training
(Ages 11-17)
Tuesday’s from 5:15pm-7:00pm
Commencing Tuesday 7th February
Netball Courts (festivals grounds)
Please bring a water bottle and a towel
All new and existing players welcome

Junior Netball Meeting
If you are able to help out Junior Netball in any way during the 2017 season then please attend the special junior meeting. If a special sub-committee cannot be formed there will be no junior netball in 2017.

When: Tuesday 21st February
Time: 6:30pm
Venue: Carnarvon Netball Courts

Carnarvon Netball Association

Community Aquatic Series
Carnarvon 8-9 April 2017
FREE swimming clinics hosted by a leading WA state coach and champion open water swimmer!

Join the Fun!
Swimming – an essential part of the Western Australian way of life