



# School Newsletter

Term 1 Issue 3

15th February 2017

Fr Mariusz Adamczyk  
Steve O'Halloran

Marie Gane  
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Sue Jordan

## St Mary Star of the Sea School Board

Ex-Officio Karen Gilbert  
Ex-Officio Jim Andreoli  
Chairperson  
Member  
Member  
Member

Treasurer  
Member  
Vice Chair  
P&F Rep

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 15th February

Thursday 16th February

Friday 17th February

Monday 20th to Friday 24th  
February

Friday 24th February

Wednesday 1st March

**Monday 6th March**

Board Meeting

Middle School Parent Evening 6.30pm in the School Hall

P&F Meeting - 7.30pm in the Staffroom

Pink Stumps Day

Middle School Assembly - 1pm in the School Hall

Primary School Assembly - Year Five

1:50pm in the School Hall

Year 6 Camp

Middle School Assembly - 1pm in the School Hall

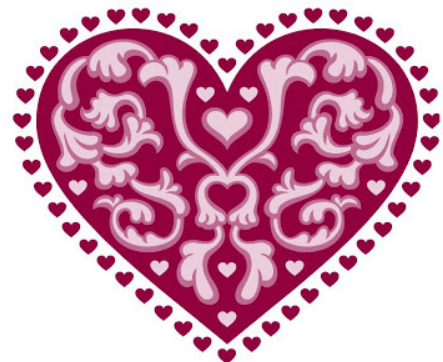
Ash Wednesday Mass - School Hall

**Public Holiday - Labour Day**

## Prayer to Saint Valentine

Dear Lord, who art high in the Heavens,  
Giver of Love and Passion,  
And He who strings the hearts cords,  
Lead the Lovers this day, February ten plus four.  
The day during the month of two,  
When the date is the perfect number of God  
Greater two souls and two hearts.  
Some Loves are fleeting ,  
But that which is built on you will never fail.  
So guide the Lovers to know what is to be.  
Your truths the Lovers mouths should speak,  
For Your truth is that which is honest to the heart.  
Only this, then, should pass over the red lips of the Lovers.  
Your art, the Lovers simply a medium.  
It is only with True Hearts that You can create a Masterpiece,  
So let the Lovers remember that their Souls Desire  
Is the one for which You light their Fire.  
And let it be You who creates the Art of the Lovers;  
The art of two into one.

Amen.



Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

It has been very pleasing moving around the classes and seeing the start made by students so far this year. Whilst we continue to implement EDI in the primary years, our middle school teachers are also beginning to implement this pedagogy with much success. There appears to be greater engagement by the students and a stronger focus on learning, as expected with this type of instruction. Each year we measure the gains made by students and we are able to determine how much growth as individuals, grades and a school we have made. It will be interesting to compare student progress this year with previous years.

### **YEAR 6 CAMP**

Next week, the Year 6 class, staff and some parents will go to Geraldton for the annual camp. They have a full programme to keep them busy throughout the week and our prayers and best wishes go with them on their journey.

### **PINK STUMPS DAY**

To support the McGrath Foundation and raise funds for screening and early detection of breast cancer, St Mary's will be holding a 'Pink Stumps Day'. Students will be able to attend school in non-uniform, so long as part of their clothing is pink, or cricket related, for a gold coin. Pink cupcakes will be for sale at recess time and there will be a modified game of Teachers Vs Students cricket. Promises to be a fun day and help raise some valuable funds for a very worthy cause.

God Bless



Steve O'Halloran  
Principal



## **Middle School News**

Welcome back everyone. I trust that all students have settled back into the swing of things and are working hard towards their learning goals. I know the inclement weather has resulted in minor ailments amongst families and flooding further south but at least it has brought our town a river – we continue to pray that we don't suffer the same fate as other towns down south or indeed in the Eastern states with the fires, due to scorching temperatures.

I have noticed though that several students are coming to school late on a few occasions; they even appear very tired whilst in class. I would like to remind all parents about the monitoring of electronic devices late into the night. Unfortunately, our teenagers are the "tech-gens" who have not yet learnt about 'moderation' and time management. A simple rule of logging off and checking in their devices with you by a certain time at night might be a good place to start and promoting non-electronic activities throughout the week, to ensure a balanced lifestyle.

I also recently had a conversation with my Year 7 class about what was important and what really mattered to them. Unsurprisingly, mobile phones and electronic devices came up. They were incredulous when I told them that I didn't buy my first mobile phone until I was 26 and that we didn't even have computers when I was at school! One student even tried to argue that sending a handwritten letter once per week was more expensive than owning and running a mobile phone! Hmm, perhaps we need to include budgeting and utilities fees/charges to the Maths curriculum in Year 7?! How times have changed.

We have a terrific fundraiser coming up this Friday: Pink Stumps Day, in aid of Breast Cancer. It promises to be an epic afternoon with Miss Towers being inundated with donations and prizes for everyone who would like to donate to such a worthy cause. Well done to Miss Towers on organising this school fundraiser which has been so well supported by the wider community. We look forward to sharing some photographs with you next week.

In Week 5, we shall be launching our Project Compassion for Caritas – raising funds and awareness to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity for underprivileged nations around the world. This year, the theme is “Love Your Neighbour” and we will kick-start it with “Pancake” or Shrove Tuesday. The Year 10 Cert I in Business students will be organising a Pancake morning tea at recess time for all staff and students for the cost of a gold coin. Posters and letters with further information will be forthcoming. Nagle College students will be joining our Ash Wednesday mass during that week.

On Monday 20 February, we will be hosting the Commissioner for Children and Young People: Colin Pettit. Mr Pettit will be meeting with some of our Primary Student Councillors and our Year 10 leaders in a forum designed to inform his office about the wellbeing of our youth. Their concerns, their needs etc.... are on his agenda and it would be a great opportunity for our children to have a say. Permission slips and further information will be sent out this week for those students concerned, which will need to be signed and returned by Monday. Thank you.

As I write this, I am reminded that yesterday was Valentine's Day. There are many legends and stories related to St Valentine, but did you know that St Valentine was a bishop who bravely died for his faith? His name actually means 'valiant' and 'brave'. This day is connected with love because of a legend that birds pick their mates on February 14. Secret notes of love and friendship sent on this day are called Saint Valentine's notes or valentines. Let us be sure to show that we appreciate those people whose love is so much a part of our lives, not just on Valentines Day, but every day!

Kind regards  
**Sam Da Luz**  
Head of Middle School



## SCHOOL FEE ACCOUNTS

### SCHOOL FEES

Accounts have been posted to all families. Included with the statement is a Payment Options Form; Direct Debit Form and information regarding Health Care/Pension Card Fee Discounts.

**Payment Options Form:** Please complete your Payment Options form and return it to the school. This indicates your commitment to the school with regards to your fees.

**Direct Debit Form:** Please complete this form to pay by Direct Debit and return to the school at least two days prior to your first payment. **Please remember when paying by Direct Debit to ensure that you have funds in your bank account to cover payments. Any payments missed will have to be made up either by extending your end date or paying by EFTPOS or Cash at the school administration office.**

**IT IS EXPECTED THAT ALL FEES ARE PAID IN FULL BY OCTOBER 2017**

### HEALTH CARE CARD FEE CONCESSIONS

**Kindy to Year 10** 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.

Holders must have one of the following cards:

- Pensioner Card—issued every two years on the cardholders birthday
- Most Health Care Cards—reissued automatically if eligible (usually valid for 1 year)
- Low Income Health Care Card—usually valid for 1 year and must be renewed each year

Parents of children who are in receipt of ABSTUDY are NOT eligible to receive HCC Fee concessions.

**Department of Education Secondary Student Assistance** Parents of children in Years 7—10 who hold Health Care Card or Pension Cards are also eligible to receive assistance through the Dept of Education.

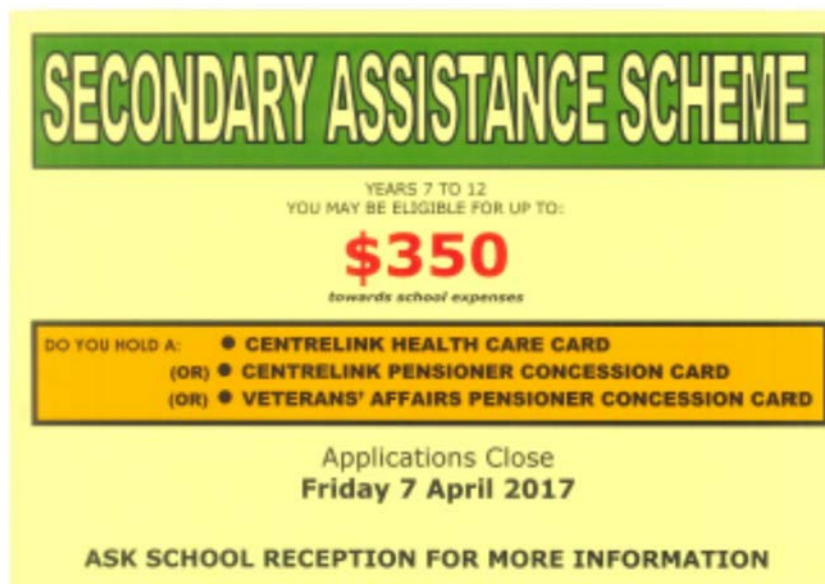
Applications for Secondary Assistance close on **Friday 7th April**. Claims cannot be made after this date.

Parents of children who received ABSTUDY are eligible to receipt a small rebate from this Assistance scheme.

All families claiming fee discounts **MUST** complete new forms for 2017. PLEASE BRING YOUR CARD TO THE OFFICE TO BE COPIED AND PAPERWORK TO BE COMPLETED.

*If you have any queries regarding your fees, fee payments, Fee concession discounts please contact the School Bursar, Anna Brooks on 99411328 or email [accounts@smsc.wa.edu.au](mailto:accounts@smsc.wa.edu.au).*

Thankyou.



**SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME**

YEARS 7 TO 12  
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO:

**\$350**  
towards school expenses

DO YOU HOLD A:

- CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
- (OR) • CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
- (OR) • VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close  
**Friday 7 April 2017**

ASK SCHOOL RECEPTION FOR MORE INFORMATION

## St Marys News

### Office Hours

Our office hours are from 7.30am to 3.30pm  
(Closed on School Holidays)

Phone 99411 328  
Fax 99412 970  
Email admin@smcsc.wa.edu.au

### Class Times

St Mary's class times are as follows:

Middle School 8.15am to 2.35pm  
Primary School 8.20am to 2.35pm

### Late

If your child is late, they **must** sign in at the school office.

### Absent

If your child is absent, a note is required.  
The following information is required

- Child's name
- Reason why your child is absent
- Date your child was absent
- Parent/Guardian name, signature and dated

### Lost Property

We have over 300 students attending St Mary's School and property is bound to get mixed up or lost sometimes. **If you label your child's property clearly**, it is quickly returned to students when it is found.

### Oops, that's not my hat?

You may have accidentally taken home someone else's school hat or jacket. Please check your belongings at home and return any 'lost property' to the School Library. Parents are welcome to check through the 'lost property' in the Library any time.

### Skoolbag App

Skoolbag is a mobile App St Mary's uses to communicate directly to parents and guardians.

- Weekly newsletters
- SMS Child's absence
- School events

Please see attached document on how to install Skoolbag on your mobile device.

## Parish News

Commencing on Sunday 19th February, Mass will be conducted at 9am only each Sunday.

**Mass times will be  
Saturday night - 7pm  
Sunday morning - 9am**

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



**P&F Meeting and AGM  
16<sup>th</sup> February  
7.30pm  
in the School Staffroom  
All welcome**



### 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.

**Bucket Hats Size M/L are now Available - \$13**



### Homework Classes

Homework classes are each Tuesday and Thursday. Please contact the school office for further information.



## Pink Stumps Day

### CLOTHES

- No offensive slogans/images
- No strappy singlets (shoulders covered/wide straps)
- No midriff visible
- Shorts/skirts must be at least as long as the school sports shorts

Modest and discreet please

### HAIR/ ACCESSORIES

- Pink hair chalk is allowed as long as it is fully removed by Monday
- No pink nail varnish please

Coloured zinc on the face is allowed as long as this is applied sensibly

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Carnarvon Junior Netball

Pre- Season Training  
(Ages 11-17)

Tuesday's from 5:15pm-7:00pm  
Commencing Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February  
Netball Courts (festival 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 21<sup>st</sup> February  
Time: 6:30pm



## Carnarvon Junior Cricket Season 2016/2017

In2Cricket  
Friday @ 5pm

Under 17's  
Game day Friday's commencing @ 5pm  
Training - Monday's commencing @ 5pm to 6pm

Under 13's  
Game Day Monday's commencing @ 4:45pm to 6pm  
Training - Friday's commencing @ 5pm

## Moneymatters Workshop



Want to learn how to budget and save for the future? Moneymatters covers financial related issues educating you with tools of how to budget, save and achieve better financial security!

- Manage everyday living expenses
- Access to banking services
- Improve family stability
- Relieve financial pressure
- Manage debt effectively

This workshop commences on the 16th February 2017  
It will be held every 3rd Thursday of the month for 10 months  
Start: 10am  
Where: 5 Stuart Street  
Carnarvon

HelpingMinds reaches more than 10,000 children, youth, adults and families affected by mental illness every year in WA. We are the pre-eminent mental health services and care support organisation, that was established nearly 40 years ago as a not for profit charity in Perth, Western Australia.



For more information visit:  
[www.helpingminds.org.au](http://www.helpingminds.org.au)

Locations:

Head Office 182 Lord Street, Perth WA 6000  
Armadale | Midland | Whitford | Fremantle | Rockingham  
Mandurah | Innes | Carnarvon | Port Hedland  
Revelstoke | Geraldton

Contact Perth Office

To make an appointment call our free call number  
1800 811 747

(Please share this information with others)