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Tuesday, 3rd May 2016

**May**
- Wed 4th @ 9am
  - P&F Meeting
  - Thurs 5th
  - Book Club Due
  - Thurs 5th
  - Mother’s Day Stall
- Thurs 5th @ 3.25pm
  - Learning Circle-Using iPads
- Fri 6th @ 7.45am
  - Mother’s Day Breakfast
- Fri 6th @ 2.40pm
  - Assembly 1/2 Anstis
- Mon 9th @ 9.15am
  - Class Mass
- Thurs 12th @ 3.25pm
  - Learning Circle
  - The topic is “Place Value”
- Fri 13th
  - Year 5/6 Gala Day
  - Fri 13th @ 2.40pm
  - Assembly 1/2 Prince

**Principal’s Message**

**Dear Parents**

**Mother’s Day Breakfast - This Friday @ 7.45am**
Just a reminder that all mums and grandmothers are invited to our annual Mother’s Day Breakfast to be held this coming Friday, May 6th at 7.45am in the School Auditorium. A number of highlights include a performance by our school choir and a special “Mothers Day Storytime with the Principal,” I’m looking forward to seeing many of you there.

**Mother’s Day Stall - Thursday**
Don’t forget to give your child some money for the Mother’s Day Stall this Thursday so that you can wake up to a nice surprise on Sunday!

**Fresh Fusion - Orders in This Week**
Last week we sent home a flyer detailing a fantastic initiative set up last year for our School Community. Fresh Fusion is an affordable, easy way to feed your family fresh fruit and vegetables. All you need to do is put $10 in an envelope, write your child’s name and class on the front and hand it in to their classroom teacher or to the Office by next Monday. You will then be able to pick up your bag of fresh fruit and vegetables next Tuesday when you collect your children. Provided we have the demand and enough volunteers to run the project, we hope to run Fresh Fusion every fortnight.

**Learning Circle - Thursday @ 3.25pm**
Just a reminder that we invite parents and their children to attend the next Learning Circle activity this Thursday May 5th at 3.25pm in the Family Space. The topic this week is iPads and Stephanie Meade will share and demonstrate several interesting ways iPads can productively be used at home and in the classroom.

**2017 Prep Enrolments**
Enrolments for Prep 2017 school year have now opened. If you or a friend has a child who turns five years old by April 30th, 2017, they are eligible to enrol their child at St Mary’s School. Please collect an enrolment form from the School Office by June 19th.

**In-Service Day - June 14th**
The school will be closed on Tuesday June 14th as all staff will be involved in a professional development day at school.

**Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF)**
Do you have a Health Care Card? If you haven’t already claimed $125 off your school fees please call in to the Office and speak to either Sandra or Jane. Applications are closing soon. Have a good week.

Greg White
Principal

**FREE**

**After School Sport-Extra curricula activities**

- Every Monday:
  - Year Prep, 1, 2
- Every Wednesday:
  - Years 3 - 6

**Birthdays:**

- May
  - 4th Christopher
  - 5th Nyamojwok
  - 5th Sellina
  - 6th Mia
  - 6th Amarpreet
  - 6th Victoria
  - 7th Martha

**Wanted:** Egg cartons for our Art Room.
Please leave in the box in the foyer.
Prep Meade’s Excursion to Dandenong Fire Station and Kew Bike School

On the excursion I learnt to stop when you see a car.
- Eshal

On the excursion I learnt how to ride a bike.
- Marley

On the excursion I learnt to stop at a red light.
- Atong

On the excursion I learnt how to squirt a fire hose.
- Anthony

On the excursion I learnt what firefighter wears.
- Selina

On the excursion I learnt you have to wear a helmet to be safe.
- Angelina
Information for Students Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation

Information Night
- Tuesday 10th May in St Mary’s School Auditorium @ 7pm
This is an important session for both parents and students. During the information night there will be a Community Penitential Service and individual reconciliation. Students and their families will design a symbol of Confirmation to be pasted onto their stole and will receive further information about the Confirmation celebration.

Reflection Day
- Thursday 19th May at St Mary’s Primary School @ 9am-3pm
This is only for the students receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. The students will further develop their knowledge of the Sacrament, celebrate Mass and create displays that will be used in the Church at Resurrection Parish on the night of Confirmation.

The students will also be visited by Bishop Elliott on this day. He will be questioning them on their chosen saint and talking to them about the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Sacrament of Confirmation
- Friday 27th May at Resurrection Parish, Keysborough @7pm

Caritas Boxes

Dear Families,
Thank you in advance for your generosity in using the Caritas boxes to collect money during the season of Lent this year. It is now time to hand in your box with the money you have collected to the school office by the 12th May. Your money will be sent to Caritas to be used as part of Project Compassion.
For further information about Project Compassion see the following website: http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion
Council's Environmental Events Program - Term 2
There are a range of events on offer from Council's Bushland team. For further information please contact Council's Conservation Engagement Officer on 8571 1759 or email koh@cgd.vic.gov.au.

Nightstalk – Batty Fun!
Come and join us for a guided walk through Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve but remember to bring your torch!
Possible sightings of owls, possums, microbats and amazing fungi.
Location: Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve
Date: Thursday 12 May
Time: 5:30pm-7pm
Light refreshments will be served from 5:30pm. Bookings are essential as places are limited. Event will be cancelled if raining.

National Tree Day 2016
Tree Day is a fulfilling opportunity to do something good for the environment and give back to the local community in a meaningful way. Participants unite with thousands of generous, green-minded individuals, reconnect with nature, enjoy and protect Australia’s unique natural environment and benefit from positive health and wellbeing outcomes.

Come and join the fun and plant at one of City of Greater Dandenong's Reserves. Each planting day ends with a free BBQ.

- Coomoora Reserve, Saturday 9 July, 10am-1pm
- Fotheringham Reserve, Saturday 30 July, 10am-1pm
- Falkiner Reserve, Sunday 31 July, 10am-1pm
- Tirhatuan Park, Sunday 14 August, 10am –1pm

School Contacts
Principal: Mr Greg White  Deputy Principal: Mr Terry Gardiner
School Secretaries: Mrs Sandra Higginbotham, Mrs Jane Merchant
School Office Hours: 8:30am - 4.15pm  Phone: 9791-7650  Fax: 9792-4827
Email: principal@smdandenong.catholic.edu.au  Website: www.smdandenong.catholic.edu.au
Uniform Shop: The Uniform Shop is open each Thursday 8.30am –10.00am.

St Mary’s Parish Education Board
Chairperson: Father Declan O’Brien  Parish Pastoral Associate: Mrs Kathy Gottliebsen  Principal: Mr Greg White
Deputy Principal: Mr Terry Gardiner  Religious Education Coordinator: Miss Amerall Blom
St Mary’s Teacher Rep: Miss Stephanie Meade  Parent Reps: Cathy Buchanan, Victor Brillantes, Chris Yugusuk

Fees
Term 2 fees are due on the 17th June 2016. Fee statements were sent home last Friday 15th April. If you have not received yours please check your child’s school bag.

Enrolments
Enrolments for the Prep 2017 school year are open. If you or a friend has a child who turns five years old by April 30th, 2017, they are eligible to be considered for enrolment at St Mary’s.