**Principal's Message**

**Dear Families**

**Confirmation Ceremony** - 7pm This Friday

Many of our Year 6 students will take the next step in their faith journey this Friday night, receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at 7.00pm at Resurrection Church, Keysborough. Bishop Peter Elliott, who visited the children last week, will confirm the candidates. Please remember these children in your prayers as they enter the final stages of their preparation.

**Learning Circle - Thursday @ 3.25pm**

Just a reminder that we invite parents and their children to attend the next Learning Circle activity this Thursday at 3.25pm in the Family Space. The topic this week is different ways to engage in prayer.

**Breakfast Club - Every Tuesday**

We successfully started up the Breakfast Club this morning in the kitchen upstairs opposite the Year 3/4 Classrooms, with over 50 children enjoying a nourishing and tasty breakfast. The Breakfast Club is open to all St Mary's children from 8.10am to 8.40am every Tuesday morning. We invite any interested child from across the school to come and enjoy a chat and a free breakfast to help start their day. A big thanks to one of our staff members Steph Meade who has organised and planned the initiation of the Breakfast Club. Thanks also to Stuart McGifford from the Salvation Army who has assisted Steph to get the Breakfast Club up and going. Thanks to the Salvation Army for providing the breakfast club with an industrial toaster as well as lots of food. Thanks to St Vincent de Paul for providing some of the nourishing food. Finally, a huge thanks to our volunteers Kaye, Robyn and Nancy for offering to co-ordinate the program each Tuesday morning.

**District Cross Country Winners**

We had a great day in perfect weather conditions for the Cross Country last Friday. 10 local catholic and government schools competed, with St Mary’s finishing in second place overall. The 45 children representing St Mary’s all achieved great personal results - a tremendous effort! The top 10 in each age group go through to the Zone Cross Country on June 3rd, so we will be sending 10 children through. These children are:

- Under 13 Boys - Jaime 7th
- Under 13 Boys - Moses 10th
- 11 Year Old Boys - Aljack 2nd
- 11 Year Old Girls - Victoria D 8th
- 11 Year Old Girls - Ashleigh 10th
- 9/10 Year Old Girls - Jennifer 1st
- 9/10 Year Old Girls - Juan 4th
- 9/10 Year Old Girls - Emma 8th
- 9/10 Year Old Girls - Areach 10th
- 9/10 Year Old Boys - Angelo E 2nd

Have a great week.

Greg White, Principal
Learning Circles

Come along to our Learning Circles and bring a friend!

Every Thursday from 3.25pm—3.45pm.

Many topics presented including Maths, Reading, Writing, Technology, Religion and many more.
The excitement roared around the field and the basketball stadium as the children of St Mary's arrived at Gala Day, on Friday the 13th of May. We played 4 different sports, each with its own enthusiasm and fun. The sports we played were basketball, netball, T-ball and AFL. We all had a marvelous day with extreme team spirit and sportsmanship booming out of our hearts. We can't wait for the next Gala Day.

By: Kisha and Chadu

The ball was hit to second base. I ran as fast as I could and made the biggest leap I have ever done. Wait a sec. Cut, cut! I have never leapt in my life. What am I talking about? Anyway, back with the action. I leapt so high. I was there just in time. I sneaked the ball in my glove, just in time.

By Achaz

It was Thursday our last day of AFL training. I was determined to play AFL but I did not know what was coming for me. Then it was Friday. I was ready to play. I was full of bravado.

By Kaiden

"Wow!" I said. I saw the basketball stadium. It was so big! We won our first match. We were nervous, but we won. We were on a winning streak, undefeated in fact, until the Grand Finals. In the Grand Final the scores were tied. We played 2 lots of overtime. 5 seconds later and the other team scored.

By Steven

We were walking across the netball court. Everyone chattering amongst themselves. We were getting ready. Getting ready for our first match in netball, and my heart was beating out of my chest. The coach lifted the ball as we were ready for play. We managed to score some goals but we didn't win. We still had fun.

By Diana
**Struggling to get that new fridge, need help with school costs or to repair your car?**

A No Interest Loan (NILS) of up to $1,200 is available to people on low incomes for items such as school books, uniforms, laptops and house hold items like a fridge, washing machine, furniture, medical/dental treatment etc. This loan is repaid over a one year period through Centrepay and there is no interest or fees. If you live in Dandenong or Keysborough, phone South East Community Links: 9791 8344 or visit [www.dcab.org.au](http://www.dcab.org.au). If you live in Springvale or Noble Park, ring 9546 5255 or visit [www.scaab.org.au](http://www.scaab.org.au)

StepUP loans of $800 - $3000 are available to people on low incomes to purchase any house hold items as mentioned above or to buy a car, car repairs, vocational studies etc. This loan has a small interest of 5.99% which will work out around $285 for a $3000 loan over a 3 year period. There are no other fees or hidden changes involved in this loan. You can live anywhere to apply for this loan.

Contact South East Community Links on 9791 83344 or visit [www.dcab.org.au](http://www.dcab.org.au)

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**School Contacts**

Principal: Mr Greg White  
Deputy Principal: Mr Terry Gardiner  
School Secretaries: Ms Sandra Higginbotham, Ms 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  
Deputy Principal: Mr Terry Gardiner  
Religious Education Coordinator: Miss Amerall Blom  
St Mary’s Teacher Rep: Miss Stephanie Meade  
Parent Reps: Ms Cathy Buchanan, Mr Victor Brillantes, Mr Chris Yugusuk

**Fees**

Term 2 fees have been sent home and are due on the 17th June 2016.

**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.