June
Thurs 16th @ 3.25pm
Learning Circle
Fri 17th
Year 5/6 Gala Day
Fri 17th @ 2.40pm
Assembly - 5/6 Walpole
Mon 20th @ 9.15am
Class Mass - 
5/6 Stapleton & Prep Burnie 
Tues 21st @ 8.10 - 8.40am
Breakfast Club
Wed 22nd
Reports Sent Home
Thurs 23rd
Regional Cross Country
Thurs 23rd @ 3.25pm
Learning Circle
Fri 24th @ 2.30pm
End of Term 2
School Finishes Early

July
Mon 11th
School Closure Day
Tues 12th @ 8.40am
Term 3 Begins

Dear Families

Breakfast Club - Every Tuesday @ 8.10am - 8.40am
Why not come to school a little bit earlier on Tuesdays and join us for
Breakfast Club. It starts at 8.10am upstairs in the kitchen. There’s toast,
cereal, fruit, juice and lots of conversation and friendship.

2017 Prep Enrolments
Enrolments for Prep 2017 are now being finalised. If you or a friend has a
child who turns 5 years old by April 30th, 2017, they are eligible to enrol
their child. Enrolment forms are available at the Office.

End of Term - Next Friday @ 2.30pm
All children will be dismissed at 2.30pm on Friday June 24th

Start of Term 3 - Tuesday July 12th
Term 3 will recommence on Tuesday July 12th as all staff will be involved in
a curriculum day at St John’s on Monday July 11th.

School Closure Day - Monday July 18th
The school will be closed again on Monday July 18th for a curriculum day.

Partnerships for Powerful Learning Conference - Adelaide
I was privileged to accompany and collaborate with two of our school
leaders Jo Cowan and Terry Gardiner, and two students from the Year
5/6 Community Chadu Bol and Kaiden Serranno at the “Partnership for
Powerful Learning” conference at the Adelaide Zoo last week.
There were 26 participating schools as well as over 70 school leaders
and 70 student leaders from NSW, Victoria and South Australia.
Together we worked in school groups and interacted with other school
groups to come up with a plan that would challenge and engage school
leaders to consider more effective ways to use “student voice” so that
student learning could be enhanced in our schools.

The conference was opened with a short yet inspiring speech by the
Minister for Education and Child Development Hon Susan Close. Then
for the most part we
were lead by Hamish
Curry and Tom Barret
from a company
called “No Tosh” who
actively work with
many organisations in Australia
and around the world. Hamish and Tom took us through the Design
Thinking Process.
In our school team, consisting of Kaiden, Chadu, Terry, Jo and myself, and through the Design Thinking Process over the conference, we brainstormed, developed, reflected on and clarified many thoughts and ideas about “student voice”.

We drafted and developed many statements to come up with a plan that we could bring back to school to action almost immediately. Among the many drafting of ideas we initially came to agreement on a statement about “Student Voice” as outline below.

One of our final action outcomes is outlined below under the 5 main priorities planning worksheet, with the development of a “Kids Newsletter” being the very first action that Chadu and Kaiden will be leading at school. So it looks like my school newsletter will be up for some competition from the “Kids Newsletter”!!!

Good luck Chadu and Kaiden with your endeavours to lead “Student Voice” across the school with all students!!!

I look forward to the first edition of the “Kids Newsletter”.

Greg White - Principal
A Memorable Semester of Learning and Wonderful Experiences…
By 5/6 Walpole

This semester has been filled with lots of learning and many highlights for the Seniors at St Mary’s. From celebrating confirmation, the Gala Day Sports events to the Italian Day excursion in Carlton, there have been many memorable moments.
Here are some of our reflections from the first semester of 2016!

In Maths I learned about angles like the obtuse angle, right angle, straight angle, acute and reflex. In Literacy, I’ve learned about the “CAFE” Menu. I also learned how to write a biography and what the elements are. I learnt the difference between autobiography, biography and memoir. By Jayden

This semester in Inquiry I learnt about Australian History and different eras of time. We looked at some Australian historical figures too, and I enjoyed this learning. This semester in Maths I have learnt more about international time and longitude and latitude. By Anu

In Inquiry I’m working on a project and I think that I’m doing well. I learned that there are 3 levels of government and they are local, state and federal government. Local takes care of Dandenong, the state takes care of Victoria, the federal takes care of Australia.
My biggest success this semester was getting on S.R.C. Getting S.R.C is special to me because it means that other students look up to me and admire me as a leader. By Christiyan

In Literacy we are writing a biography about Mrs Anstis because she came to the 5/6 Community and told her story of how she came to Australia from South Africa and how many people were in her family. In Gala Day sports we went to Greeves Reserve and my team played t-ball which was so much fun and we came second place. We also went to the Dandenong Library and Council Office which I really enjoyed too. By Nadine

My greatest success this semester has been my Saints Project because I got a perfect score and this was because I researched quite a lot about St. Joan of Arc. I learnt many facts and I was able to use many interesting resources that I haven’t used before. By Chanumi
Student Wellbeing News

Currently in our Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) at St Mary's we are focusing on developing Relationship Skills.

In the home it is very important for children to develop positive relationships with parents/carers and siblings. Children need the opportunity to discuss issues with their parents/carers and to talk about their feelings.

It is important for parents/carers to take time with their children; playing with them, eating with them, reading with them, watching them and finding out what they are interested in. Children need times of encouragement, comfort and support. Having time to snuggle up and have cosy moments provides security and comfort and this is important for mental health and wellbeing.

Children want parents/carers to be there for them; encouraging and supporting them to try out new things, encouraging them to negotiate and compromise. Children benefit from sharing experiences with parents/carers: celebrating achievements, sacraments and other special occasions together.

Children benefit from ‘teamwork’ experiences where each person in the family has a role and can share jobs, such as preparing dinner or tidying up. This helps children to cooperate and develop a sense of independence.

So grab a book, a hot chocolate and snuggle up.

Always remember if you want information on a particular area of Health and Wellbeing the following website is a great resource:

http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families

Kindest regards,  Cathie Lynch - Student Wellbeing & Student Services

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.

The second hand uniform shop will be open next on: Monday 20th June @ 9am.

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: Ms Cathy Buchanan, Mr Victor Brillantes, Mr Chris Yugusuk

Fees
Term 2 fees are due by the 17th June 2016. If unable to pay by the due date please contact Greg White immediately.

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.