Dear Families

**Literacy and Numeracy Family Fun Night**

Thanks to the many families who enjoyed the Literacy and Numeracy Family Fun Night held last week as part of the upcoming National Literacy and Numeracy Week. The evening was an excellent example of a home/school engagement partnership activity, with well over 150 people attending. We hope families had fun and learnt a lot from the evening.

**Storytime with the Principal - This Thursday**

The next Storytime with the Principal is scheduled for this Thursday August 11th at 8.50am and then at 3.25pm (as part of Learning Circles). The book being read relates to the SEL competency of "Responsible Decision Making" and is called "Go Away Mr Worrythoughts" by Nicky Johnson. The story is about a boy called Bayden who is usually bright, confident and courageous but often is overwhelmed by his worrying thoughts. His anxiety makes life quite unbearable at times. The good outcome is that Bayden discovers his super powers, takes better control of his emotions and is able to live more freely and happily. This simple story helps and encourages children like Bayden to manage and overcome their anxiety through good and responsible decision making. I’m looking forward to seeing many of you on Thursday.

Have a great week.

Greg White,
Principal
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Some of our Year 5 students will be celebrating Reconciliation for the first time on **Thursday 25th August at 7pm in St Mary’s School Auditorium.**

Students who are preparing to receive Reconciliation are expected to attend Mass on the weekends and wear a white sash during Mass so that the parishioners and Fr Declan can see them and can pray for them.

The sashes are located in a basket on the table at the entrance of the Auditorium.

There will be an Information Night for these students and their families on **Thursday 18th August at 7pm held in St Mary’s School Auditorium.**

Students will paste their symbols on their stoles on this night and find out more about the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**First Eucharist**

Great News!

Students receiving their First Eucharist this year will do so in the **BRAND NEW CHURCH!**

The celebration of the students receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time will take place on the **19th and 20th of November.**

Families will be given an opportunity to choose from these two dates next term.

**We did it!**

Through hard work and persistence we achieved our goal!

We raised enough money to buy a water bore hole for St Mary’s in Uganda. A community who did not have fresh water now have a reason to celebrate because we walked in solidarity with them. Fr Emmanual in Uganda was overjoyed to hear of the success “Thanks everybody for the tremendous work you have done. God bless all your efforts. There is no way we can thank you enough.” he said.

Thank you to all those who shared the Pozzible video and pledged support.

Every drop counts for a better life, so everyone’s efforts to reach the $10,000 was very much appreciated. The hard work in Term 3 last year, the small steps along the way and a successful Pozzible campaign helped us reach our goal!
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<th>Difficult</th>
<th>Handcuffs</th>
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<th>Exhilarating</th>
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<td>Kaos</td>
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<td>Burritos</td>
<td>Pancakes</td>
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<td>Rice and Meatballs</td>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>Burgers</td>
<td>Thrilling</td>
<td>Giant Swing</td>
<td>Butterflies in the Stomach</td>
<td>Challenging</td>
<td>Crate Stacking</td>
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<td>Apple Crumble</td>
<td>Cereal</td>
<td>Bacon and eggs</td>
<td>Breath taking</td>
<td>Ticklish</td>
<td>Harness</td>
<td>Scary</td>
<td>Exciting</td>
<td>Teamwork</td>
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A lotus diagram
By 5/6 Stapleton
Now that I have been at school for 100 days...

I have learnt how to focus. Jasmeen
I have learnt to work. Marley

I have learnt how to go upside down on the monkey bars. Seet
I have learnt to write. Atong
I have learnt how to write. Linda

I have learnt to play soccer. Anthony
I have learnt to play with Lego. Jind
I have learnt to eat my lunch. Rehan

I have learnt to work hard. Siena
I have learnt how to write. Ayoung
I have learnt to be kind to my friends. Alisha

Fee statements went home on the 22nd July. Please check your child’s bag. All fees are due by the 9th September. Please contact Mr White immediately if you are having trouble.

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.

Fees

Enrolments

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  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

The second hand uniform shop will be open next on:
Monday 22nd
August @ 9am