Dear Families

Year 3/4 School Camp
I was lucky to attend the Year 3/4 camp at Briars, Mt Martha last week, where a great time was had by everyone and we were blessed with some glorious weather. The students took part in many activities, including the low ropes course, night walks, morning runs, the flying fox, the giant swing, hut building, canoeing, damper cooking, the commando course (to name a few).

In line with the aims of our outdoor education program the children were able to experience an environment different from home and school. They were given the opportunity to exhibit more independence in the camp environment. Whilst away the children were extremely well behaved and worked co-operatively, ensuring the success of the camp. A big thank you to the staff who all worked very hard taking special care of all the children throughout the 3 days - Neesha Bateson, Amerall Blom, Fil Olivetti, Anna Hendy, Hannah Nevins, Lina Ono, Yvette Silva and Steph Prince.

Learning Circle - Thursdays @ 3.25pm
The topic for our Learning Circle this week is number lines with Anna Hendy. Come along and find out some interesting facts and pick up some handy maths tips.

Free After School Sports Activities Begin this Week
The Active After School Sports program begins again this week:
- Mondays 3.30pm - 4.30pm (Prep, Year 1 and 2) and
- Wednesdays 3.30pm - 4.30pm (Year 3, 4, 5, and 6)
This is a free program that provides a great opportunity for your child to take part in an extra curricula activity to keep them fit and involved in sport.

This term the children will be playing tennis and cricket.

Breakfast Club - Tuesdays @ 8.10am
The Breakfast Club runs every Tuesday morning from 8.10am in the upstairs kitchen. We welcome children to come along and share a meal and hot milo.

“Storytime with the Principal” - Next Thursday
Storytime with the Principal is scheduled for next Thursday October 20th at 8.50am and then as part of Learning Circles at 3.25pm. All welcome!

School Closure - 31st October & 1st November
School will be closed on Monday 31st October for a staff report writing day and Tuesday 1st November for Melbourne Cup.

2017 Enrolments
We are currently finalising the 2017 Prep classes. Please call in and see Sandra or Jane at the Office to collect an enrolment form and find out more information.

School Fees
Unless you are on a pre-arranged payment schedule, all school fees for the year should have been paid by the end of last term. If you are having difficulty finalising your school fee commitment for 2016 please contact the Office immediately to make alternate arrangements, otherwise please pay any outstanding amount.

Have a great week.
Greg White, Principal
I learnt that you need to be responsible for your own belongings at camp - Nirbhay (3/4 Hendy Ono)

I learnt that you need to challenge your limits on the activities like the Giant Swing or the Flying Fox - Stevie (3/4 Hendy Ono)

I learnt how to scrape the food off my dinner plate - Harish (3/4 Hendy Ono)

I learnt how to go forward, turn and go backwards on the canoe and to always communicate with the person behind you - Alex Duric (3/4 Nevins)

I learnt that you should always try something even if you’re scared or it is too hard - Akim (3/4 Nevins)

Camp is about doing things for yourself and facing your fears - Angel (3/4 Nevins)

I overcame my fear of heights. I went to the top of the Giant Swing - Lina (3/4 Silva Blom)

I learnt how to do Bush Cooking - Irene (3/4 Silva Blom)

I learnt how to put a harness on to keep safe on the Giant Swing and the Flying Fox - Gloria (3/4 Silva Blom)
Term 4 Inquiry

Each term at St Mary’s our classes focus their learning on key concepts. This term the whole school is learning about Design and Technology. All levels will be planning, inventing, organising, classifying, testing for change and continuity and investigating energy and resources.

For Prep their focus is: **I can make my world a better place**, by answering the questions
- What are different materials?
- Why should we recycle and reuse goods?
- What objects can be recycled and reused?
- Why is it important to look after our earth?
- What can I make?
- How can I make this better?
- How can a solve a problem through creating a design?

For Year 1/2 their focus is: **Go Gadget Go!!!**
Their questions are:
- What am I creating and why?
- What materials are the best for my product?
- What steps do I need to take?
- Did my product work?
- How can I improve it?

For Year 3/4 their focus is: **Moving and Grooving**
- What is a design?
- How do things move?
- How/Why are things created?
- What tools/materials do we need to construct things?
- How can I record and refine my process of production?

For Year 5/6 their focus is: **Tinkering and Technology**
- How can electrical circuits provide a means of transferring and transforming electricity?
- How is light absorbed, reflected and refracted?
- What are the most effective combinations of designs, systems and materials that deliver the best innovative solutions?
- What are the best graphic organisers for the design process?
- How can simple tests and peer feedback be used to determine product performance?
- Why is it important to prepare and store food in safe and hygienic ways?
St Mary’s News

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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.

P&F Fundraising
Cadbury chocolates will be available for purchase in the Classroom this Term for $1 each.

Fees
Fees are now overdue. Please contact Mr White immediately if you are experiencing difficulties paying your fees.
Statements were sent home Monday 3rd October.

Enrolments
Closing soon.
Come and see Sandra & Jane at the Office.

The second hand uniform shop will be open next on:
Monday 17th October @ 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

Zooper Doopers
50 cents
Available on Mondays this Term from the Auditorium Canteen