Dear Families

Celebration of the First Eucharist
Congratulations to all the children who celebrated their First Eucharist over the weekend at either the Saturday Vigil or Sunday morning Mass. Thanks to our school’s Religious Education Leader and Year 3/4 Teacher Ameral Blom and to the other Year 3/4 Teachers; Lina Ono, Anna Hendy, Yvette Silva, and Hannah Nevins, as well as Parish Pastoral Associate Cathie Gottliebsen, Fr Declan and Deacon George for all their excellent work in preparing the children for their special day.

Twilight Sports - This Friday
Great excitement is building throughout the school for our Twilight Sports which is happening this Friday November 25th at St John’s College. The afternoon will begin at 4.15pm and finish at approximately 6.30pm. All children are expected to participate in this whole school event. I look forward to seeing you all on Friday!!

Whole School Transition - This Friday
Our third 2016 Prep transition session is this coming Friday November 25th from 9.30 to 11.00am. All other levels across the school will spend time in possible 2016 classes as part of their transition for next year.

Swimming - Begins Monday 28th November
Our school swimming program at the Oasis Pool, Dandenong starts next Monday for 2 weeks. All children from Prep through to Year 6 will be taking part as the program provides valuable life skills. The children will swim everyday for two weeks. This is just at the perfect time to remind and teach your children about how to behave around water before the hot Australian summer starts. Australia has always been known as a country where children grow up at the beach and around pools, so it is important that ALL children in Australia know how to swim. Children are allowed to wear their sports uniform for the duration of the swimming program. They also become very tired because they are doing so much physical activity, so we ask that you add an extra piece of fruit to their lunch in case they need that extra boost of energy and get them to bed on time too. We spend a great deal of time organising the school timetable so that your children don’t miss out on their specialist lessons as these are a very important part of their whole education. We really encourage you to come along and watch the swimming as well. Toddlers are welcome too, but of course if you wish to swim, you need to pay upon entry. If you are just coming along to watch there is no charge. Please ensure your child’s permission slip is returned to their classroom teacher by Thursday of this week.

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
It was a wonderful celebration of First Eucharist over the weekend. The children were overjoyed to receive the Body of Christ for the first time. Congratulations to the Parents and the St Mary’s community for helping to support and prepare the children to receive this sacrament.
An Evening of Classical Music and Prayerful Reflection

Enjoy the music of the acclaimed Syrek family; organist Roman, violinist Aljia and cellist Ania, with soprano Jolanta Mielczarek.

The Syrek family have offered to perform for us to celebrate the refurbishment of our Church.

The music will be interspersed with spiritual and scriptural readings.

Date: Thursday 8th December @ 7pm
Venue: St Mary's Church, Dandenong

A donation for entry will go towards the Church.
Tea & Coffee will be provided.
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 News!
A “Kids’ Stall” will run this Friday in the Quadrangle selling Christmas Cards & Jewellery
From 50 cents to $2
Zooper Doopers are available on Mondays this Term from the Auditorium Canteen for 50 cents

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
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 5th December @ 9am

DANDENONG BAPTIST CHURCH
25-27 James Street Dandenong, Ph: 9792 3204

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS ON SUNDAY DEC 11th
Come along for an evening of fun for all the family!
FREE kids activities, face painting, jumping castle and BBQ: 4.00pm
Carol Service: 6.00pm

Other Christmas Services at Dandenong Baptist:
Sun 18th Dec: 10am & 6pm
Christmas Day: 9.30am
New Year’s Eve: 10pm
New Year’s Day: 10am & 6pm

St Mary’s Teacher Rep: Miss Stephanie Meade  Parent Reps: Ms Cathy Buchanan, Mr Victor Brillantes, Mr Chris Yugusuk