

Our News...

December 1st 2017
Newsletter No# 38

TO THE COMMUNITY OF ST MARY'S... GOD IS GLORIFIED IN ALL THINGS



"The love of Christ is like a "spiritual GPS" that guides us unerringly toward God and towards the heart of our neighbour." (Pope Francis - Tweet today)

This weekend we begin Advent, the time of preparing for the birth of Jesus. The time leading up to Christmas day is a joyous time but also a reflective time. Let's continue to pray and remember all of those less fortunate than many of us in our community. Pope Francis put it so well in his Tweet today, an easy analogy for us to relate to.

This week we have been extremely busy and the learning is still solid in every room! All teachers have enjoyed their assessment week with their Learners, celebrating much growth and success. Please remember that if you would like to book a Learning conversation for week 10, the bookings at School Interview are open. These are optional learning conversations this term.

We all traveled throughout the universe and around the galaxies as we took part in the Star lab excursion. The Planetarium was a huge success with our Learners consolidating our inquiry investigation this term. Mini Inquiry investigations are well underway in the learning spaces with everyone completing their own investigations. These independent inquiries will continue throughout the swimming program.

Please remember to provide permission for the swimming program as soon as convenient. This year Miss Spence has tried to plan our sessions on swimming ability to ensure we are learning to our ability. The first few sessions will assess this closely. The swimming program is well worth the effort and Miss Spence has prepared this years program well.

On Sunday night 6:30pm on the Memorial Hall lawn, Santa will start off our community carols celebration. Mrs Keely has prepared our group so well and all are welcome! Come along and share in the festivities. Carols will follow in the hall at 7:30pm, it would be great to see many there!

With Advent upon us, each week we will hold a whole school liturgy to mark the passing weeks and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Within our Advent time we will also celebrate our St Mary's feast day, Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mass will be held in the Church on Friday 8th December at 9:10am if you would like to join us.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 3rd Dec: Carols in the Hall (Memorial)
- 4th - 15th Dec: Swimming Program
- 6th Dec: Yr 5/6 Feast of the Sacred Heart - Echuca
- 7th Dec: Yr 5 Learner's to St Joseph's Echuca
- 7th - 8th Dec: Yr 3/4 Roar & Snore Camp
- 8th Dec: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
9:10am - Whole School
- 10th Dec: Father Jun Jun's Leaving Mass & BBQ
10:30am
- 12th Dec - Step up Day
- 15th Dec: End of year Mass & BBQ - 6:00pm
- 18th Dec: School Closure Day
- 20th Dec: Year 6 Graduation Dinner @ Tavern 6:30pm
- 22nd Dec: End of Term 4 - 2:10 Dismissal

Our Senior Learners had the fortunate visit of Srgt Andrew Downes on Monday to share his expertise around Cyber Bullying and strategies relevant to such ages to stay safe while on line. A great time in the year to have such guidance before many head off to secondary school. Our learners were truly engaged with the content.

Step Up Day is not far away and an exciting time of year for our Learners...they are ready and eager to know what lies ahead. Step Up day will take place for the whole day on Tuesday 12th December. The whole day our learners will spend with their teacher for 2018. During the afternoon session, we will come together as a whole school and perform for one another, all of the singing and dancing that Mrs Keely has taught us. If our Mum's and Dad's were able to join us, we will perform from 2:30pm under the COLA.

As you will notice in the 'dates to remember' there has been a slight time change to our end of year Mass and BBQ. The mass time which will start off our celebration will be 6:00pm in the Church. This time we hope will allow for our working parents to join us. More details around our end of year gathering will come home next week.

Many happy faces in the playground today having opened Advent calendars and written letters to Santa...A wonderful time of year!

God Bless - Jasmine Ryan (Principal)



Riley Hore - 3rd

Thomas O'Mahony - 3rd



Our St. Mary's families have embraced CDFPay... we have had 50 families using this new application, and apart from a few small "glitches", the feedback has been extremely positive. Leasa and Jenny would like to thank all those families using CDFPay to place Canteen & Uniform orders as it is helping to ease their workloads. A reminder from Leasa : could parents please remember to send along their child's reusable lunch bags when they have a Canteen order.



<https://smcohuna.cdfpay.org.au>



To Respect Others - To think kindly of & for others during Advent.

NEXT WEEK @



From 9:30 - 10:30...come and join in the journey of Christmas! Another festive activity where we will decorate Reindeer's Biscuits! Come along and enjoy!

Date: 8th December

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

