



ST MARY'S NEW SLETTER

Term: 1 | Week 1 | 2nd February 2018

WELCOME TO 2018

Welcome everyone to the 2018 school year! It has been an incredible start to the year with everyone happy to return and all of the children settled and eager to take on new learning adventures.

The staff had a great day of professional learning on Monday preparing for the year ahead and working on their Collaborative skills. Thank you to those of you who helped them with their Amazing Race quest around town if you saw them!

Thank you all for making arrangements to allow the teachers to complete the testing over half days. I understand it can be complex arranging children and we hope ample notice was given.



HOLIDAY WORKS

Many minor changes took place over the holidays to improve the resources and facilities of St Mary's. The Collaborative learning space was renovated and we are now only waiting on furniture. One side of the rebound wall was brought to life with colour and climbing holds! Thank you Lyndsey Quinlan for your creative flare! The children love it! St Mary's now has 24 hour security surveillance which hopes to minimise any vandalism to our school. Jodale Cleaning have taken over the cleaning contract and now the school is cleaned daily, we are noticing the difference!

NEW FAMILIES

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our Prep's 2018 as well as our new families!

This year we welcome seven new families. We thank you for choosing to be a part of our community and we look forward to taking part in many of your child(rens) milestones. I know the whole community will make you feel welcome!

Welcome: Bisset, Conlan, Fehring, Fletcher, Gundy, Luks and Nicholson families.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 5th Feb: School Board Meeting @ 7:00

7th Feb: No Preps to attend school

Thur 8th Feb: St Mary's Swimming Sports @ Cohuna Pool

9th Feb: Beginning of year Mass & Picnic 6:00pm in the Church

12th Feb: Zone Swimming Kerang

13th Feb: Welcome to the Year Parent Information night @ 7:00pm

14th Feb: Ash Wednesday Mass in the Church @ 12:00pm, No Preps to attend school

16th Feb: Whole school excursion to St Joseph's Kerang: The Queen's Baton Relay

19th Feb: P&F AGM @ 7:30pm

20th Feb: Parent Support Group Meetings

Further dates available on the App under 'Calendar, as well as on our website.

START TO YEAR INFORMATION...

A reminder for all families that every child at the beginning of the year is to have brought from home; working headphones, a labeled art smock, a cloth library bag for borrowing books and a box of tissues to contribute to each class. Can these items please be organised for your child as soon as possible.

A reminder that Father Ted McCormack is our replacement Parish Priest until Easter. St Mary's Parish Masses remain the same and Father Ted will celebrate all Masses with us until Easter. We thank Father Ted for sharing his time with us.

CDF Pay has been used so well with our start to year uniform orders. Thank you to everyone who did this, its efficiency and time saving for staff is appreciated. This will continue to be our predominant method of payments for items throughout the year. We encourage all families to use this format for uniform and canteen ordering. The direct link is on our website.

Our App has been updated for the year and permission forms and absentees are to be logged here. Thank you to those who actively use the App.

The logo for CDF pay, featuring the letters 'CDF' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font above the word 'pay' in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a bright yellow rectangular background.

WEEK ONE ADVENTURES



WELCOME TO THE YEAR PARENT NIGHT

On Tuesday 13th February we will have a 'Welcome to the Year Information Night.' It would be great to see a family representative from each family there if possible. On this evening families will spend some time with their child's teachers in classrooms. This evening aims to discuss; exciting learning and events in the year ahead, home learning expectations, child safe legal requirements and general information that will assist in everyone having a successful year! For families who are unable to leave their children home, supervision will be available in the Arts Studio. We will be trying to devise a timetable for this evening so that it is informative yet brief however allowing parents with more than one child the opportunity to visit several classrooms.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL BOARD AGM

St Mary's School Board AGM is scheduled for **Monday 5th March @ 7:00pm**. All are welcome. We are hoping to welcome some new board members. Please see attached a Board nomination form if this is something of interest to you.



A PRAYER TO START OUR YEAR...

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder
of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they
begin
a new school year.
Bless them and their teachers
and staff.
Give the strength and grace
as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to
their minds
as they search for
understanding;
and peace and zeal to their
hearts.
We ask this through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.



BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS & PICNIC

Mass in the Church @
6:00pm

followed by our Start of
Year School Picnic in the
school yard!

IN THE PIPELINE...



LIBRARY

Mrs Fry and Mrs McLoughlan are busy trying to set up our new library. Thank you to the families who have already provided permission for your child(ren) to walk to and from. When library is up and running, all children will need to use their reading bag / satchel to borrow and care for books. Thank you to our Senior learners who have found these at home!

ART SHOW

This year is St Mary's creatively commits to the art show. In the past we have had parents share their creative abilities to support art in school and with the actual show itself. This year our art show will coincide with the Cohuna fair on the long weekend in November. Interested parents please contact Mrs Keely as we would love many people involved.

ekeely@smcohuna.catholic.edu.au

CANTEEN

Mrs Edge is open for business. The Term 1 Canteen Menu came home yesterday! Today we had more than half of our families use CDF Pay to order lunches. This is time efficient for Mrs Edge and we thank you for getting on board with this. The link is here, on the App and on our website. CDF PAY

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018

- Term 1:** 29th January - 29th March
- Term 2:** 16th April - 29th June
- Term 3:** 16th July - 21st September
- Term 4:** 8th October - 19th December



PLAYGROUP

St Mary's Giggle & Giggles (Playgroup) will start again next week, again each Friday morning between 9:30 - 10:30...Please invite all the preschoolers along that you can! We would love to see many there!



Aesha Bisset - 2nd

Kody Oliver - 3rd

Mikayla Rigg - 5th



Dad's please join us...



The Importance of Dads

Cohuna



In this 2 hour session for Dad's of children 0 - 10 we will:

- Explore the unique role of Dad's in their child's development.
- Consider the benefits of play.
- Learn how Dads can maximise their child's social, emotional and academic growth.

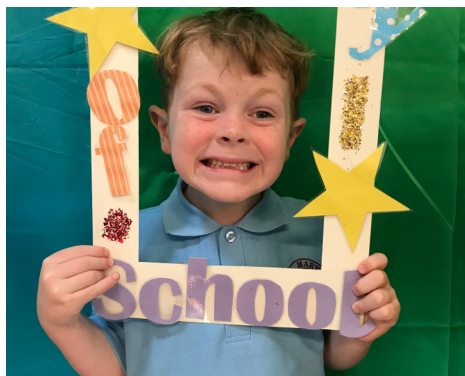
Term 1, 2018

When: Wednesday 28th March 2018
Time: Arrival and registration 5.45pm
 Session 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Where: St Mary's Primary School, 45 - 49 King Edward Street, Cohuna
Cost: Free
Childcare: Sorry, no childcare provided
Facilitators: Jo Rodriguez, CCS Family and Relationship Services

Groups are subject to maximum and minimum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.

For bookings and enquiries contact school reception on Ph: 5456 2062

WELCOME TO OUR PREPS



On Thursday our Preps started their life at school! We welcomed 19 new school friends to the St Mary's community! They all began with confidence, courage and not one tear! The St Mary's transition program definitely impacts the way they all start on the first day! We always anticipate the tears yet yesterday all of our Mum's and Dad's were promptly gone and the Preps were off and away! They have all returned today with even more confidence and excitement about what each day will bring! Next week we hope to have our Mum's and Dad's support RATS (Reading Across the School) in the first fifteen minutes of the day if possible! We know our new families will have many questions about life at school and we hope that our 'Welcome to the start of the school year' information night will answer all of these! We know our Preps will rest well on the weekend!

BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS & BBQ: FRIDAY 9TH FEB

Inviting all families to join us next Friday night to our beginning of year Mass and Picnic. Mass will be celebrated in the Church at 6:00pm, followed by games and a picnic in the playground! More information to come home next week!

