DO YOUR CHILDREN LIKE BEING READ TO?
Over the holidays I was reading an article from a Scholastic magazine which was related to reading at home with children. I would like to share some of the findings from this report with you. Scholastic surveyed over 2500 families for a Kids and Family Reading Report. The age range for this report varied from 6 – 17 years.

The findings were as follows:
78% of those surveyed said that it was a special time to spend with their parents;
65% said that reading together was fun;
54% said that it was relaxing to read before going to bed;
48% said that they got to listen to books that might have been too hard to read on their own;
35% said they like to hear the different voices their parents use and 35% said they liked talking about the book when their parent read to them.

These findings are very interesting to read. It would be a great idea to ask your own child of how they feel when you read to them at night.

Keep in mind also the importance of reading to your child and reading with your child. I assure you that the experience will be invaluable to both parties.

INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA SECURITY FOR FAMILIES
On Wednesday night we held a very informative night on cyber safety. Mr. Lance Roughsedge gave a great presentation and gave parents some very useful tips on how to keep their children safe when on-line at home. Unfortunately our numbers were on the low side for such an important topic. We will hopefully hold this evening again next term with the view that more parents will attend. Please be aware that the information given on these nights is for parents knowledge as to what your children are doing at home on their devices.

DID YOU KNOW: THAT IF ANY CHILD IN THIS SCHOOL HAS INSTA-GRAM OR FACEBOOK IT IS AGAINST THE LAW, one of the many facts given on Wednesday night!

I’d like to thank Lance for a very informative presentation which was greatly appreciated by those who attended.

LENT
On Wednesday afternoon we celebrated a liturgy for Lent. The Season of Lent is typically considered to be the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, and is often characterized by abstention from certain kinds of food or activities. This is also a time for us to reflect on our personal lives and draw closer to God. See Mr Payne’s section in this newsletter on how we can carry out various actions to participate in this special season.

REMINDER—CAR WASH AND MINI FETE– THIS SATURDAY FROM 9.00AM. COME ALONG AND SUPPORT OUR YEAR 6 STUDENTS.

PARENT CANTEEN WORKSHOP—SNACKS AND LUNCHES!!!
This will be another important workshop and information session for parents presented by the Western Australian School Canteen Association Inc. The workshop will be held on WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY IN THE ST JOSEPH HALL. The session will run from 9.30—11.00am. Please come along and join in this practical and interactive workshop.
CONGRATULATIONS

A huge congratulations to Lily Bosivert for being nominated in a short film award. Lily entered the Kalamunda Shire, ‘Jam Packed Film Festival’ Competition and was then chosen as a finalist. This Friday night 20 February there will be a Screening and Awards Night at Stirk Park. The evening will run from 7.00pm to 9.30pm. This promises to be a great family fun night and best of all it is FREE! Take your picnic, snacks, rugs and chairs and enjoy the evening. I believe the scenery and setting is breath-taking!!!

From all at Mary’s Mount ... GOOD LUCK LILY!

SWIMMING

We have had a very smooth start to the swimming classes this year. A big thank you to the Year 3 and Year 6 parents for having the children here at school promptly for them to catch the first bus.

MORNING FITNESS

In Week 5 we will be commencing Morning Fitness with the children. This will run from 8.40am—8.50am. Classes will rotate every day to a new activity which will have a class teacher at each of those stations.

Not only will this start improving the children’s fitness but with the extra exercise they become more focussed and ready to learn due, in part, to an increased oxygen flow to the brain. The other side benefit of exercising in the morning is that it improves mood, lowers aggression, and increases attention. With the increased oxygen in the blood the students become more focussed in class when working.

TUTORS

Last year I noticed that some families had organized tutors for their children which was great for extra support. However, I would encourage parents to ensure that the tutor makes contact with the child’s class teacher. This way the tutor is focusing on what the child’s needs are and working together with the class teacher for the betterment of the child.

Be aware that if this is not done the child runs the risk of overload. Coping with what is covered at school and then with what is covered by the tutor. Please keep this in mind!

Sincerely Yours

Sandro Coniglio

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Recently in class I was involved in a discussion with students about ‘What are you giving up for Lent?’ After much talk of chocolate and lollies, the discussion began to focus on what is Lent and why do we take part in it.

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). It is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial and resurrection.

The Bible actually does not mention the custom of Lent, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.

Some Simple Guidelines and Practises for Lent

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays in Lent the following is suggested:

- Prayer – for example, Mass attendance, family prayer, a visit to a Church or Chapel, reading the Bible, attending Stations of the Cross, praying the Rosary
- Self-Denial – for example, not eating meat, not eating sweets or dessert, giving up entertainment and social media to spend time with the family
- Helping Others – for example, giving special attention to the poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our help for others.

All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 18 February and Trinity Sunday, 31 May 2015 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.

The season of Lent is a time of Penance. The wonderful gift of the Lord’s love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is the most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All the faithful are bound to confess their sins at least once a year.

Clinton Payne
Assistant Principal
Our congratulations go to our last LEAD award recipient back in December 2014, Ben Calais. Ben was recognised for demonstrating excellence in the areas of Engagement and Discipleship. Well done Ben.

Our LEAD Awards for Excellence continues into 2015 within our Mary’s Mount Primary School community.

LEAD awards may be presented to any stakeholder within the Mary’s Mount Primary School community who has been witnessed demonstrating an area of LEAD in their actions.

The definition of LEAD in its simplest form is:

- **Learning** - is what we do. We are committed to learning at every level.
- **Engagement** - is essential. We are committed to Catholic Education’s mission through positive relationships with all.
- **Accountability** - is not optional. We have personal and collective responsibility for our systems’ success.
- **Discipleship** - is our calling. We are committed to deepening our relationship with Jesus.

The process to nominate is:

- Witness a person or group of people demonstrating an act of excellence in an area of LEAD.
- Fill out a nomination form (found in the front office).
- Nominations will be considered by the LEAD team and leadership.
- Notification will be sent out to recipients relatives to inform them of the future presentation (if they are a student).
- Presentation of the award will be held at a Monday morning assembly.
- The winner’s photo will be printed in our school newsletter and displayed on a notice board.

The integrity of the Award is maintained through the sincerity of the nominations, only awarding them at a time when excellence is witnessed.

Keep a look out for any person demonstrating excellent LEAD actions within our school community and nominate them today!!!!

**Thankyou**

**LEAD Team**
Dear Parents

The count down is on with Breakfast in the Park three weeks away!

Preparation for this great community event is well underway.

**We are still in need of 1 more truck and a couple more trailers with sides for transporting tables, chairs and containers, and 2 more BBQ’s for the morning.**

**Coffee Stall:** We are putting a call out for any parents who are baristas or know how to operate coffee machines to coordinate and help out with the coffee stall.

**Rosters:** Reminder the parent volunteer rosters will be up outside the school library on Monday 23 February.

**Class Contributions:** Non-perishable items can be dropped off to the school office, and milk donations to the Cottage in the mornings before school from Thursday 12 March.

**Tickets on sale** from 9 March before and after school outside the school library.

**Fairy Garland Stall:** Ivy—if you have some in your garden, please let us know, and bring along in a bag on the morning directly to the stall.

**Toy Stall:** Toys that are in good working order for the Toy Stall, please leave in the box outside the Cottage.

Without your donations, time, effort and support we would not be able to make this morning as wonderful as it is.

*Merrisa McDougall*

P&F President

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**P&F Committee 2015**

*Email: pfmarysmount@gmail.com*

President: Merrisa McDougall
Vice President: Amanda Tallon
Secretary: Michelle Sanderson
Treasurer: Sacha Upton
Committee Members: Naomi Holly, Maree Ferritto, Paula Rafferty, Fiona Wittenbaker, Elsia Silvestri

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**Next P&F Meeting**

available via the school website.

**Tuesday 17 March 2015**

9.10am—Multi-Purpose Room (St Joseph’s School Hall)

ALL PARENTS & FRIENDS WELCOME

Previous minutes and meeting agenda available via the school website.

(link)

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**St Brigid’s College Scholarships 2016**

Year 7 Scholarships 2016 Exam held Saturday 14 March 2015

**Academic**

Gabrielle Marchesi Memorial (partial tuition fees – 3 yrs)
Myrtle Scott- Tomlinson Scholarship (full tuition fees 3 years)

**Music Scholarship**

Sue Spencer Memorial Music Scholarship – (full music tuition fees 3 years)

**Friends of St Brigid’s Scholarship**

Friends of St Brigid’s Scholarship (partial tuition fees 3 years)

Applications should be submitted on the prescribed form which can be obtained from the College website or by contacting the Principal’s Assistant on 9290 4202. Closing date is Friday 27 February 2015. No late applications can be accepted.

**Open Day at St Brigid’s will be held on Friday 13 March 2015.**

For further information please contact the Community Relations Office on 9290 4237
Don’t miss the annual Mary’s Mount Car Wash & Fete this Saturday, 21st Feb!

Bring your whole family along for a morning of food, fun and entertainment between 9am-2pm.

For just $10 you can save yourself the hassle and let us wash your car.

Then drop by the Fete for some delicious hot food (bacon and egg rolls and a sausage sizzle) plus there will be a cake and coffee stall, cold drinks, popcorn, bric-a-brac and plant stall, preserves, lolly bags, candle, jewellery and health stalls, tattoos plus lots more!

While you are at the Fete, don’t forget to buy a raffle ticket for your chance to win some great prizes (first prize is a 2-night stay in Dunsborough). And don’t forget to pick up some yummy Krispy Kreme Donuts before they all sell out.

This year, there is even a live band and a Camaro on display (snap a selfie!!). Bring the whole family and join us for lots of fun in the junior area of the school on Noel Road. Check out the flyer attached to this newsletter for more details. See you on Saturday!

Thank you for your continued support,
2015 Year 6 Canberra/Sydney Tour Committee

TRINITY COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

Trinity College in East Perth will shortly commence the enrolment process for intake into Year 7 for 2017. If you are keen for your son to be considered for this intake please ring the Registrar on 9223 8121 to receive a Prospectus and Application for Admission. Also due to recent expansion of facilities limited places are available for Year 7 for 2016.
Small group lessons from 6 months to school age.
Pool heated 32º for optimum concentration.
Teachers trained by Austswim and Australia’s best Swim School Consultant: Coach Cameron Roberts

221 Gooseberry Hill Rd Maida Vale, WA 6057
Ph 94545440
www.aquatotsswimmingschool.com.au
info@aquatotsswimmingschool.com.au

Thank you to these businesses for supporting our school. If you would like to advertise here please contact the school office.

2015 WINTER SEASON REGISTER NOW
Do you have a team or are an individual and want to play netball? Kalamunda & Districts Netball Association holds its winter competition at the Ray Owen Sports Centre in Lesmurdie. Call Tracey Clemesha on 9291 8763 for information on a club near you.
SEASON COMMENCES SAT 2nd MAY 2015

Juventus Soccer Schools Perth is excited to bring a great opportunity to Western Australia in April 2015. It is running a 5 day international camp with three highly qualified Juventus coaches direct from Italy. Open to children between the ages of 6 to 16, we are very proud to host this unforgettable experience to train and learn from the best. For further information please contact Marina at info@jssperth.com.au