FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

CONFIRMATION

Last week we celebrated a very special event on our year calendar. On Friday evening our Year 6 students received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Mass was beautifully celebrated and was a very reverent occasion for all. I thank all family members who attended and for the reverence they showed throughout the whole Mass. Many people mentioned how special the whole celebration was. I would also like to thank Father Suresh and Father Greg for celebrating the Mass. Thank you also to Miss Smith, Mr Payne and Mrs Natalie Boyd-Ratcliffe for preparing the children so thoroughly.

PERFORMING ARTS

Our students continue to take part in the Catholic Performing Arts Festival. Last Friday our Year 5 class travelled to Balcatta to represent the school by singing a medley of ABBA songs. (Mama Mia it was beautiful!) On Wednesday afternoon I received an email from the Chairman of the CPA committee to inform us that the Year 2 class also received an Honourable Mention for their presentation. Great news! Congratulations to these students and to Mrs Debarro. Last Tuesday 18 August, our Dance Troupe performed in front of approximately two thousand people at the Perth Convention Centre. They too received an outstanding report from the adjudicators. Many thanks to Miss Olivia Zaffino and Miss Chloe Smith for their 15 weeks of hard voluntary work with the students.

NAPLAN

In May this year, national literacy and numeracy tests were administered to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia. Over 1 million students from almost 10,000 schools participated in the national tests. The purpose for these assessments is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of education programs and to help schools set goals for improvement. Results will also show the class teacher how the class and individuals compare across the nation.

It is also important to remember that these assessments reflect the student’s achievements in comparison to other similar aged students across Australia. Keep in mind also that teachers administer literacy and numeracy assessments on an ongoing basis. NAPLAN assessments are there to complement and not replace the information that teachers gather.

After a brief view of our results, we are very happy to see some very encouraging results all round, which indicated to us that our support programs seem to be assisting the students.

FATHERS’ DAY

We have a small committee of staff who are organizing our Fathers’ Day Mass and breakfast next Friday morning, 4 September. Mass will commence at 8.00am. We ask all dads, granddads and other male role models for our children to please spare an hour to come along and share sometime with the kids. There will be more information to follow.

BUSY BEE

A reminder to our parents that we have a ‘Many Hands Needed Busy Bee’ coming up next term on 31 October. Please keep a few hours free in the morning. Most work will be focused in the Adventure Playground.

CHRIST + WISDOM + COMMUNITY + TRADITION + RESPONSIBILITY
CONGRATULATIONS

I would like to congratulate Tahli Redgwell who recently competed in the Johnny Young Talent School Talent Quest. Tahli presented a solo piece in which she put together herself. The song she chose to perform was ‘Naughty’ from the well known stage show Matilda. Tahli was one of 27 acts who performed for the WAPA judges. Competing against children ranging from 6-17 in age. Tahli won third place overall. What a great effort Tahli, well done!

FAREWELL FOR NOW!

On behalf of our school community I would like to say farewell and thank you to Mrs Williams who leaves us this week for Maternity Leave. The students were able to farewell Mrs Williams at the assembly this week. I would like to wish Sarah and Shaun all the very best as they are about to start a new phase in their lives. God bless you both for a healthy baby!

(Oops, Sorry Sarah, there is only meant to be one stork!!! I think!!!)

SMART RIDERS

Last week the school registered for online ordering of Smart Riders. This will allow parents to order new cards or replacement cards and pay online. The cards will then be sent to the school for distribution. This eliminates wait times and unnecessary cheque payments. Further information can be found on http://www.monitorwa.com.au/smartrider/

ATHLETICS GREAT DAY—WET DAY!!!!!

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who attended the Athletics carnival today. What a huge number of spectators. Unfortunately, due to a large amount of precipitation we had to call the Carnival off a little early! We managed to get through a lot of the program this morning, which was a credit to all concerned. I would like to thank the parents who stayed, in the rain, and helped us pack up the equipment etc. Your help was greatly appreciated.

On Monday we will inform parents of when we will finish the Carnival, hopefully we will aim for Wednesday afternoon. It seems to be showing a fine day at this stage on the BOM weather site. Please keep an eye open for this email on Monday.

Sincerely Yours,
Sandro Coniglio
Principal

FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

I would like to remind you all that we have a Busy Bee coming up in Term 4 on October 31. Most of the work will be concentrated in the adventure playground area. If you could spare some time on that day to help out it would be greatly appreciated.

Good Luck and Thank-You

On behalf of the school Board I would like to extend our thanks to Sarah Williams as she commences maternity leave. We wish Sarah and Shaun all the best for the safe delivery of a healthy baby and wish them all a happy future.

Simon DiRosso Board Chairperson

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

“People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care”

John Maxwell

TALENT SHOW—YEARS PP—6

IS IN

WEEK 10 ON

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

AUDITIONS START IN WEEK 8 IN

INDIVIDUAL CLASSES

TEACHERS WILL SEND HOME

INFORMATION

REGARDING AUDITIONS IN THE

NEAR FUTURE

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

You should have received the brochures for the next issue of Book Club earlier this week.

I would ask if all orders can please be returned to the school office no later than the morning of Wednesday 9 September.

Please make cheques payable to Scholastic.

Thank-you for your ongoing support. By purchasing through the Book Club all the children at Mary’s Mount Primary School will benefit from the credits accrued.
Look Closer

INNER PURITY: Children generally obey their parents’ rules for fear of being punished. As they mature, they recognise the love behind the rules and they embrace them. Jesus also challenges us to do more than obey through blind obedience; he calls us to purify our hearts so that our outer deeds may arise from our heartfelt values.

Prayer Space

Symbol: Love Heart

Lord God,

Every good thing comes from you. Fill our hearts with goodness.

Amen

Family Activity

Cut out a heart shape. On one side write words or draw/paste pictures that represent evil. On the other side, place words/pictures of goodness and holiness. Talk about how we can turn our hearts to God.

Did You Know?

Pope Gregory the Great was elected Pope by unanimous vote around 580AD. He made huge contributions to the Liturgy and Mass. A whole genre of liturgical music is named after him. ‘Gregorian Chants’ are Latin chants sung usually by all-male choirs and are famous for their haunting sound!

Preparing for the Sacraments

This term many of our Year 4 students will be receiving Jesus for the first time when they celebrate their First Holy Communion. This is such an important time of preparation in the lives of these students and their families. We ask that our school community prays for all of these students and their families over the coming weeks. We pray that they will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit who helps us to become closer to God in our everyday lives.

Confirmation

Last Friday, 21 August, our Year 6 students received the final Sacrament of Initiation, Confirmation. The celebration was beautiful and the students renewed their Baptismal promises with confidence and received the Sacrament with reverence. We sincerely thank all of those involved in preparing the students and the Mass especially Miss Smith, Mrs Boyd-Ratcliffe, Father Greg and Father Suresh.

We congratulate our Year 6 students and pray that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit they received will guide them as young adults in our faith. We also acknowledge those Year 6 students who participated in the program and celebration. It was special to witness inclusivity in our school and Parish community.

What makes a good character?

Last week when reading the newsletter from my girls’ school I came across this quote. The quote really jumped out at me and I soon found myself searching YouTube to discover more about the person, Eric Thomas. In fact, I discovered that he was in Perth recently. What a shame I missed out!

Eric Thomas is a motivational speaker. His main goal is to bring out the best in people by promoting the ‘good stuff’ such as positivity, persistence, endurance and a ‘never give up’ work ethic. When he discusses what is character, he says it is about your word being everything. If you say it, then make sure you do it!
Mary’s Mount Catholic Identity

Keeping our word sounds so simple but it is one of the greatest challenges for us all. At times of excitement or pressure I find myself saying things that I have the best intentions of doing, but somehow the busyness of life gets in the way of following through. However, after reading this quote I have found myself thinking about what I am committing to before I actually let the words leave my mouth! Don’t get me wrong, I hope we never lose that drive of having good intentions, but being more aware of this has made me think ‘Can I achieve that?’ As Eric Thomas explains “The extra degree is to take the next step and keep that good intention, that is the game changer!”

Recently my youngest daughter, Sienna (4 going on 21), had a go at me saying that I take too long to get ready as she was five or so minutes late to a birthday party. Reflecting on this she is right! The little things get in the way making us late. She has made me realise that keeping to time shows respect for others. It is a skill to be and stay on time. It is something I always have an excuse for but it is something I need to get better at. Therefore, thanks to Eric Thomas, I have challenged myself to keep on time and to keep to my word. If any of you have any tips to help let me know! I have made little gains over the past fortnight but I intend to step it up over the coming weeks!

Finally, I would like to wish all the DADS a wonderful Father’s Day. Enjoy the day boys, you deserve it!

Wishing you a blessed fortnight.

Clinton Payne
Assistant Principal

A Prayer For Fathers

God our Father,  
in your wisdom and love you made all things.  
Bless those fathers who have taken upon themselves the responsibility of parenting.  
Bless those who have lost a spouse to death, separation, or divorce, and who are parenting their children alone.  
Strengthen all Dads by your love that they may become the loving, caring persons they are meant to be.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen!

VACSWIM HOLIDAY SWIMMING PROGRAMS

Enrolments for October programs opened on 3 August and close on 30 August 2015.

It is important for every child to learn to swim and develop essential water safety skills. VacSwim’s school holiday swimming programs are conducted by qualified instructors who teach children the skills to be confident swimmers and safe in the water.

This year there has been a small price increase from $10.00 per enrolment to $12.50 per enrolment (family enrolment for three or more children living at the same address is now $34.50).

For further information and online enrolment please visit education.wa.edu.au/swimming.
Dear Parents and Families,

**Wild West Hoedown**
The P&F have been busily preparing for our school fundraiser this Saturday night. Thank you to all those who have bought tickets for this event. Your support is greatly appreciated!

We still have a few tickets left which can be purchased at the school office.

**Fathers Day Stall**
The Fathers Day Stall will be running again this year on Friday 4 September. Gifts will be no more than $5. This is not a fundraising event. Children can bring their money to school in a labelled envelope to purchase a gift if they wish.

The next P&F meeting will be advised via email.

P&F Committee
Lunchtime Helpers

I am grateful for the ongoing assistance provided by parent and grandparent volunteers in the canteen. The canteen is doing very well, however, I ask that if you have an hour free on a Monday or Friday between 12.15pm and 1.15pm you consider volunteering. This is the busiest time when we are packing lunches into bags and sorting drinks for collection by the children. An extra pair of hands at this time would be great! If you would like to know more please call me on (0418 927 177 or 9454-5686) or if you are just driving past the school at this time please feel free to pop in to the canteen and offer assistance (Parents and Grandparents most welcome).

Menu

I am considering adding wraps to the menu for Term 4 to compliment our sandwiches and rolls. I am interested in your feedback regarding this item and would like to know if ‘wraps’ are a wanted menu item and would be ordered by your child. If you see me around the school please give me your feedback or give me a call. I am also keen to listen to any other menu requests you or your child may have.

Shirley Shaw

Mary’s Mount P&F Footy Tipping 2015

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<th>Round</th>
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<td>Feast Family</td>
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<td>CJD Equipment—Alan Barnett</td>
<td>Maddie B</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Active 4 Life—Hannes Holly</td>
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<td>Gilba Downs—John Guadagnin</td>
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<td>Scanlan Surveys—John Scanlan</td>
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<td>OP’s Bar &amp; Cafe—Michael Basioli</td>
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<td>Roof &amp; Gutter Services—Ken Witt</td>
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<td>McDowall Affleck—Michael Ferritto</td>
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A huge THANK YOU to all the families and businesses for being part of this year’s footy tipping competition!
DON’T FORGET TO GET YOUR TIPS IN BEFORE THE FIRST GAME OF EACH ROUND.
Leaderboard posted on the P&F notice board located outside the school library.
COMMUNITY NEWS

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Don’t forget to mention Mary’s Mount Primary School when you make a purchase at Bakers Delight Kalamunda or High Wycombe. They will donate 5% of the purchase amount back to the school.