CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>29th November</td>
<td>Parish Education Board Meeting 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>29th November</td>
<td>Christmas Carols Concert &amp; Picnic 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3rd December</td>
<td>Year 1's Grandparents Morning Session</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4th December</td>
<td>Tony Bones incursion 'Fractured Fairy Tales' (Years Prep – 2)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6th December</td>
<td>CBC Carols Under The Sails &amp; St Mary's Choir students only 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17th December</td>
<td>End of Year Mass / Picnic / Disco 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17th December</td>
<td>Reports Sent home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>20th December</td>
<td>End of Term 4, Students Finish at 1pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>After Care is available until 6pm, booking is essential</td>
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From the Principal’s Desk:

Walk to School - Lemon Tree Planting Ceremony
A highlight for the school last week was the planting of our lemon tree on Wednesday morning. We were joined by renowned singer songwriter Paul Kelly, who sang his hit song ‘From Little Things Big Things Grow’ as the School Representative Council processed into the school with the lemon tree. A big thank you to Therese John who organised the ceremony, Dermot Avon who liaised behind the scenes in assisting with the organisation and Fr Barry Moran who participated in the ceremony.

Sacred Heart Mission Donations
Thank you to all the families who have been able to donate some items for the Sacred Heart Missions. It is important to remember those people who are not as fortunate as us, at Christmas time.

End Of Year Events
On Thursday 29th November, a carols and picnic night has been organised to commence at 7.00pm. This carols night replaces the joint Carols and Graduation Mass for the Year 6s, which has been held in previous years. We will be joined by Andrew Chinn who will work with the children during the day in preparing some songs for the night. The children will perform the carols in front of the Berchmans Centre in class groups whilst parents will be enjoying the singing with their picnic.

The Year 6 Graduation dinner for parents and students will be held on Wednesday 12th December at the Zimari Greek Restaurant.

In the final week of term on Monday 17th December, we will be holding a whole school Year 6 Graduation Mass commencing at 6.00 pm. This will be followed by a Disco/Picnic. This will enable us to celebrate as a whole school with the Year 6s as they graduate from St Mary’s.
Year 5 Leadership Night
On Wednesday 14th November the Year 5 students and their parents attended a Leadership night in the Berchmans Centre. This evening was facilitated by Pia Pagotto from the Presentation Family Project. The children reflected on their early years in primary school and the important occasions of their school life. Well done to all the children who attended as their responses were honest and insightful. This evening was the first event in helping to prepare our 2013 school leaders and I am confident that these children will make great leaders next year. Thank you to Ben Fahey and Claire O’Dowd who organised the night with Pia.

Book Fair
Today was the first morning for our Book Fair. As Christmas is approaching it is a great time to buy some books for Christmas presents. Thank you to Anna Borella and Dianne Pavlou who are organising the Fair. It concludes this Wednesday.

Mathematics Leadership
On Tuesday 13th November we were privileged to have Professor Peter Sullivan from Monash University teach our Year 4 class a Mathematics lesson in front of School Mathematics Leaders from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Our Year 4 classes were combined for this occasion and participated fabulously in the lesson. Well done to all of the children in Year 4 for responding and sharing their mathematics strategies so well in front of an audience of ninety adults.

Wanalirri Primary School – Gibb River
Some children in Years 1 and 2 have been working with me in making connections with the Wanalirri Primary School, an Indigenous School in Western Australia at Gibb River. We have sent letters to each of their sixteen students and are awaiting a reply. This linkage enables us to make connections to schools outside our local community.

Christian Brothers College (CBC) Students
Thank you to Jordan Kopa, Robert Boribon, Mitch Clarke and Zach Amos (Year 9 students from CBC) who worked within the school over the last four weeks as part of their Community Service Program. They were a great help to Ben Fahey in assisting with the Vegetable Garden Project. We look forward to many more visits in the future from students of CBC and Presentation College.

Student and Parent Safety
In the busyness of before and after school pick up I ask that you show care and thought for others when you are parking your cars. Some parents continue to double-park in Westbury Street which is very dangerous for your selves, your children and the other cars using the street. For those parents who use Westbury Street, please make sure you park in the allocated spaces for parking. Please do not use any parking spots allocated to private property. This is against the law and also causes concern for the relevant residents. A reminder for the children’s and parent’s safety who use the parking arrangements near the presbytery, we have opened up the large gate outside the senior campus. I ask that you walk through that gate after you have parked your car to walk to the pedestrian crossing. PLEASE USE THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING near the church when walking over to the main campus.

I hope you all have a wonderful week.

Gerard Lewis
Principal

PARISH EDUCATION BOARD MEETING
Thursday 29th November, at 5pm.

SCHOOL FEES
A reminder that all school fees must be now finalised. If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate to contact Erica in the office.

NO LUNCH ORDERS - IMPORTANT
Due to the CBC canteen being renovated there will be NO Lunch Orders until next year 2013.
END OF YEAR EVENTS

Thursday 29th November  Christmas Carols & Picnic

Christmas Carols will be commencing at 7:00pm in front of the Berchmans Centre, all students must attend. Students are to wear their sports uniform during the day and their costumes on the night as shown below:

- Preps  Angels & Shepherds
- Year 1’s  Christmas Colours
- Year 2’s  Anything Christmas
- Year 3’s  Christmas Colours & Santa Hat
- Year 4’s  Christmas Colours
- Year 5’s  Christmas Colours
- Year 6’s  Christmas Colours & Santa Hat

Monday 17th December  End of Year Mass

Our whole school celebration of the Year 6 Graduation Mass commencing at 6.00 pm, all students must attend. This will be followed by a Disco/Picnic.

R.E NEWS – PRAYER & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Thank you to all those parents who came and supported our Mission Week Celebration today. We also thank Marika Fengler from the Sacred Heart Mission for taking time out of her schedule to come and speak to the children. We are collecting items until Friday, so please take the time to give to those in need. **If any parents are able to assist with the delivery of goods to Sacred Heart in December, please let us know.**

**Advent begins on Sunday 2nd December.** **Advent** is the period of preparation before Christmas. It is named from the Latin word *Adventus*, meaning coming. The period of Advent begins on the Sunday four weeks before Christmas with a gospel that looks forward, not to the coming of Christ in history, nor to the coming Christmas feast, but to the coming of Christ at the end of time.

The gospel this Sunday and the following Sunday focus on the role of **John the Baptist** in preparing for Christ. The last Sunday in Advent focuses the Church’s thought on **Mary, John the Baptist** was the forerunner of Christ. A rugged and unconventional figure, he had withdrawn from the cities to live and preach in the desert. He called the people of his time to repentance, and spoke of the Holy One who was to come. Jesus Christ called him the greatest of the prophets.

The stories of Mary, the mother of Jesus, feature in the gospels of the fourth week of Advent. **Mary, the Mother of God**, has a unique and integral place in Christian tradition. She is honoured because she was chosen by God to give flesh and human nature to Jesus Christ the Son of God. This was not forced upon her. God waited upon the acceptance of a human being. The first chapter of Luke records her response to God’s initiative ‘Let it be done to me according to your word’. So Mary is both Mother of God and first and best of believers.

**Advent** is a season of past, present and future. In terms of the **past**, Advent prepares us for the celebration of the historical coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. In terms of the **present**, Advent reminds us that God speaks to each of us now, through our own personal histories, our own experiences and daily living. In terms of the **future**, Advent points us towards the time when Christ will come again. The main focus is on hope, which gives meaning to our lives. Advent is a time of hope and trust that God, through Jesus, will make all things new.

**Purple** is the liturgical colour of Advent. It is the colour of the sky just before the dawn. The symbolism of this is that we are waiting through the darkness of the night for the birth of the Light of the World. Now the time is drawing near.

**Advent Wreath:** Many people celebrate Advent by lighting the candles of an Advent wreath each day, accompanied by a prayer. One candle for Week One, two candles for Week Two, and so on. The wreath comprises three purple candles and one rose-coloured, for the joyful Third Week of Advent. They are set in a circle of evergreen leaves, symbolising God’s endless life and love. The gradual lighting of the candles represents the increasing light of Christ as his coming draws near.

We will be celebrating Advent as a whole school on Monday 10th December at 2.45pm in the Church. It would be lovely to see everyone there.

*Claire O'Dowd - R.E Leader*
Extend OSHC at St Mary’s - Primary School

Your action may be required: rolling over enrolments

Extend will be rolling over all 2012 enrolments and bookings for the next school year in 2013. If you are currently enrolled with Extend please read carefully to see what action is required from you.

What is rolling over?
Your entire account will be rolled over to 2013, which includes any Term 4 permanent bookings we currently have in the system. The annual enrolment fee of $30 will be charged in January, 2013 before Term 1 commences.

Scenario 1: I want everything to roll over
All existing enrolments and any Term 4 permanent bookings will automatically roll over if we don’t hear from you by Friday 30 November. It is the account holder’s responsibility to update any enrolment details if they have changed. Please contact us immediately to update your details eg. change of address.

Scenario 2: My bookings will change in 2013
Any Term 4 permanent bookings will automatically roll-over if we don't hear from you by Friday 30 November. The usual cancellation policy will apply to any bookings. Cancellations made with 7 days notice or more will not incur a fee. You can change your bookings online at any time.

Scenario 3: I won't be using the service in 2013
Your child may be in Grade 6 this year or may be changing schools for 2013. If for any reason you do not require your enrolment to roll-over for Term 1, 2013, please notify our office by Friday 30 November 2012. If you discontinue your enrolment then you will not be enrolled for 2013. This means that if you would like to make a booking next year you will need to contact our office first to activate your enrolment.

End of Term 4 Early Release
Book now for After School Care. Please note After School Care WILL be available on the last day of Term 4, Thursday 20 December from 1:00pm. Book now for this Early Release session by contacting our office on 1300 366 437. This will be charged as a separate session to the regular After School Care session, so parents have the option to book their child(ren) in for the Early Release session ONLY, or both the Early Release session and regular After School Care session.
If you would like to know what your out of pocket expense will be please contact our Head Office on 1300 366 437.

LEMON TREE CEREMONY
This term, we have been using our curiosity to find out more about the past. We have learnt that:

We have more fast food and fashion now than 50 years ago. - Lucetta

In the past, they had grammar phones to play records. Now we have CD’s. - Allegra

In the past, people didn’t have cars they rode by horse and carriage. - Grace

People are able to find out more about history now because of the new technology we have. - Marika

We can take a photograph a lot easier now than in the past. We have digital cameras. In the past, they had big heavy cameras and the photographs were in black and white. - Chris

In the past, people used typewriters. - Elisha

Lots of new machines have been invented which make our lives easier. - Scarlet

In the past, people played tennis with a wooden racquet. They used a racquet press to stop their racquet from warping. We now play tennis with an aluminium racquet. - Maxwell

We have better technology now than in the olden days. - Adit

In the past, hospitals and medicines were different. - Elisa

We now have more buildings and schools than in the past. - Arabella

We have more toys and games that we can play than in the past. - Matteo

Toys have changed a lot. - Sebastian

In the past, the teacher used to write on a blackboard. - Sevastiana

In the past it took more time to do everyday tasks. - Samuel

Mobile phones were a lot bigger and heavier in the past. - Lucas

Kites have changed a lot. They use different materials to make them now. - Trinity

Mobile phones have changed a lot. - Emma

There are some games that people still play that they used to play in the past, e.g. Pick Up Sticks. - Ben

They used phonographs to play records on. There were small records and big records. When they first made records they only played one side for 3-4 minutes. - Olivia
2K's CLASS NEWSLETTER

In 2K, we have been Historians and been finding out about the past. We have learnt it was very different to the world that we live in today.

I have learnt that my Grandma never had a telephone until the early 1970's. - Lily

Their phones had rotary dials and they didn’t have screens like we do now. - Tom

Tennis racquet heads were smaller and wooden instead of aluminium and the grips were much longer. - Isabella

On olden day phones, you had to spin the dial around and you couldn’t walk around when talking on the phone. - Kayla

I didn’t know that typewriters didn’t have a backspace. - Amelie

People didn’t always have telephones, they used to write letters on paper and send them to other people. - Pia

In the past, they had different video game consoles which you couldn’t put discs in. - Alex

They didn’t use to have cds or cd players in the olden days, instead they had records and record players. The records were light and looked like they were made from plastic. - Christian

Photos used to be in black and white. - Nataly

I never knew that people in many countries over the age of 16 had to join the war. - Josh

People didn’t use to smile in the photos. They always looked serious. - Henry

If students were naughty they used to get the whip. - Victoria

In the past, families used to listen to the radio. They sat very nicely by sitting up tall and crossing their knees. - Scarlett

In the past, there were no computers. - Thomas

Instead of cars, they used horse and carts. - George

TVs didn’t have colour. - Kathryn

Lots of toys in the olden days were handmade out of wood and wool. - Elina

Punishments like the whip and strap were used in school. Ouch! - Kaitlin

One of the punishments at school was to sit and stare at a blackboard for one hour. - Susannah
A Massive thanks to all whose presence and participation made the Celebration such a great occasion — to St Mary's school, to Presentation College and Christian Brothers' College for the choir and musicians, to cleaners and decorators, to those who set up and cleared up in the garden, to the afternoon tea providers ("No catering problem in your Parish" said one of my friends), to Bernadette Milne and the committees, to Fr. Giang Tran the M.C. and Archbishop Hart. It was a celebration worthy of our history. Barry Moran Parish Priest