From the Principal’s Desk:

Retirement of Fr Barry Moran

Thank you to all the families who attended Fr Moran’s last official Mass last Sunday. It was great to see the number of people who attended his farewell Mass and hear the tributes that were made to him. We wish Barry the very best for his retirement and thank him for his enormous contribution to the Archdiocese of Melbourne and in particular St Mary’s. His devotion of serving others over fifty-six years is an enormous effort and we hope that his time in retirement is a good one.

New Parish Priest - Fr Joe Caddy

In the last week of August we will welcome our new Parish Priest Fr Joe Caddy to St Mary’s. Previously Fr Caddy has been the Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Care Melbourne. He has also been Parish Priest of All Saints Parish in Fitzroy. Earlier this year he was appointed Episcopal Vicar (Archbishop’s representative) for Social Services in the Melbourne Archdiocese.
Fifty Foundation students have been accepted into St Mary’s for next year. This continues the growing trend of increased enrolments that the school has experienced over the last five years. In regards to other year levels for 2017, a form will be sent home this week asking you to advise us whether your child is returning in 2017.

School Improvement Framework (School Review)
In this newsletter I will focus on the first section of the School Review Report – Education In Faith. This first section highlights the outcomes that we were trying to achieve in Religious Education.

Child Safety Policy
Seven new Victorian Child Safe Standards came into effect on 1st January 2016 and apply to all organisations involved in child-related work in Victoria, such as schools, churches, kindergartens, children’s services, out of home care services, youth services and local councils. As a result of these standards the school at the moment is developing a comprehensive Child Safety Policy. During the development of this policy, the school proposes to:
- Demonstrate its commitment to child safety and monitor the school’s adherence to its Child Safety Policy or Statement of Commitment;
- Support, encourage and enable school staff, parents and children to understand, identify, discuss and report child safety matters;
- Support or assist children who disclose child abuse or are otherwise linked to suspected child abuse.

Points to note
- The Child Safety Policy frames the commitments, policies, strategies and procedures of the school to ensure the protection of children from harm and abuse.
- We will undertake meaningful consultation with staff and others in developing the Child Safety Policy.
- The Child Safety Policy applies to school employees, volunteers, contractors and clergy.
- Once finalised the Child Safety Policy will be made available on an ongoing basis.

Provisional Psychologists
The two Provisional Psychologists Erin and Danielle have begun working with the children. They will work under the supervision of experienced Educational and Clinical Psychologists. They will be able to support the St Mary’s community with:
- Academic assessments (Specific Learning Disorders and other academic difficulties).
- Individual counselling of students (anxiety, anger management, social skills difficulties).
- Small group programs (friendships/social skills/anger management).

Having both Erin and Danielle work in our school for three days will enable us to further support our students in educational, social and emotional matters. If you wish some support for your children in one of these areas please talk to either, Therese John (Student Well Being), Paula Incretolli (Student Services), Anna Side (Mathematics and Literacy Intervention) or myself.

Speech Therapist
We are pleased to announce that Narelle Ryan is working with a small group of children in Speech Therapy. We value the experience and expertise that Narelle brings to assisting some of these children.

Lunch orders
We are hoping to commence the on line registrations for lunch orders during the middle of August. I am hoping to have more details of this registration process by the next newsletter.

I hope you have an enjoyable week.

Gerard Lewis
Principal

School Review Report
Education in Faith

i. What outcomes was the school trying to achieve?
Throughout the current school improvement period the principal and staff were endeavouring to strengthen the Catholic identity of the school community. The specific outcome which they hoped to achieve was that students’ understanding of faith-based values would be deepened and connected to real life.
Targets were set around the percentage of teachers with Accreditation to Teach in a Catholic School/to Teach Religious Education. Improving all student and staff ratings for the variables of the Catholic Culture surveys and growth in the Student Engagement Index were also identified as improvement targets.

ii. What did the school achieve?
It is clear that the principal and staff have made progress towards the achievement of their goal and intended outcome in the Education in Faith sphere, despite not achieving all improvement targets.

As this is the first time the school has completed the Enhancing Catholic School Identity surveys (ECSI) there is no comparative data to measure improvement; however the current ECSI report indicates that the overwhelming majority of adults and students support the Catholic identity of the school (p. 41). Focus groups of staff, parents and students strongly affirm this identity, indicating that they greatly appreciate the Catholic ethos and Christian values which permeate all school activities. Parents particularly spoke of the strong sense of spirituality that is evident at St. Mary’s, with one mother commenting that the Christian values are almost palpable. Another commented that there was a strong sense of St. Mary’s being a welcoming Catholic community. These results and the views expressed in discussion groups suggest that there has been positive movement towards the goal of strengthening the Catholic identity of the school community throughout this improvement period.

Although the target for staff Accreditation to teach in a Catholic school and to teach Religious Education were not attained, staff Catholic Culture survey results were very positive, with their perception of most indicators improving throughout this cycle. Three variables – Opportunity, Behaviour - Staff and Compassion exceeded the designated target. Behaviour - Staff, which reflects the extent to which staff interactions with others are based on faith-based values, was rated in the top 25% of Victorian Catholic primary schools. The overall staff Catholic Culture Aggregate Indicator also showed steady improvement throughout the period.

However, despite these positive staff perceptions and the views expressed in focus groups, it appears that not all students and parents value the religious dimension of the school to the same extent. The student and parent Catholic Culture survey results reveal that their opinion of the importance placed on attending a Catholic school, participating in prayer and celebrating liturgies fluctuated throughout the period, declining overall from 2012 – 2015 and falling well short of the desired rating. The Importance rating for both groups fell in the lowest 25% of Victorian primary schools.

Discussions with staff and students in focus groups and consideration of the survey results suggest that the school has had some success in deepening students’ understanding of faith-based values and how they relate to their lives. Although the improvement target was not reached, both staff and student perception of Behaviour – Students improved overall and rated in the top 25% of Victorian Catholic primary schools in the most recent surveys. Students in the focus group could also make the link between what they were learning in their R.E. lessons and how they treated each other in the playground. They could also identify the social justice activities in which they were involved as being connected to Jesus’ message of caring for those in need.

Whilst the Student Wellbeing Index (incorporating the Student Engagement indicators) fell short of the target, the mean of the individual Student Engagement indicators reached the desired level. Although this is a positive result, it does not seem to provide evidence of the extent to which the school has achieved its goal and intended outcome for this sphere.

The next newsletter will continue with Education in Faith and will highlight Why did the school achieve / not achieve its desired outcomes?

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**SCHOOL CONCERT**

**Thursday 1st September**

**7pm**

**SCHOOL FEES**

A reminder that all school fees must be finalised by Wednesday 24th August, 2016. If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate to contact Erica in the office.
RETURNING IN 2017
Each year at this time we commence our planning for the following school year. Enrolment patterns influence staffing, class numbers and our response to enquiries about new enrolments. A form will be sent home this week and we ask that you complete the form to advise us if your child is returning in 2017 so that our planning is as accurate as possible.

PREP 100 DAYS
Congratulations to all the Prep students as they celebrated 100 Days at school last week. The children enjoyed all the fun activities.

LOST PROPERTY – SCHOOL UNIFORM
There are currently many items in the lost property tub (located in the office foyer). If you are missing an item/s of clothing please come and have a look. All school items which are not collected by Friday the 26th August will be put into the second hand uniform cupboard and all non-school items will be donated to St. Vincent De Paul. Lost property items include – School Jumpers, Sports Uniform, School Hats, spray jackets, scarves, lunch boxes, drink bottles, socks, casual clothes, sleeping bags, umbrellas and hair ties. Please make sure that all school items are clearly named for easy identification.

RE NEWS
Family Connection
Family life helps us learn about the values of solidarity and the common good. As a family, we strive to respect the rights of each family member and make decisions that promote the common good of the family. Talk about what it would be like if the family ordered a pizza and then divided it unequally, with some members getting as many pieces as they wanted while others got only a half slice. Discuss the importance of everyone in the family having his or her fair share.
Talk about how your family is also a member of the human family, called to share the goods of creation fairly and justly. Explain that in this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus challenges us to remember that the goods of the world are intended to be shared by all. Read aloud Luke 12:13-21. Talk about the parable of the rich fool and ask family members to describe what they think he did wrong. Emphasize that although the man in the story doesn’t seem bad, Jesus points out that this man’s flaw was that he was thinking only about himself and his own comfort and security.

Maureen McDonald – Education In Faith Leader

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS
Restorative Practice Parent Session - Monday 1st August 7:30pm
Thank you to all parents who attended the session on Behaviour Management last night. Please refer to the handout attached that was given out last night.

Therese John – Student Wellbeing Leader

LIBRARY NEWS
Premiers’ Reading Challenge
The Premiers’ Reading Challenge students are doing an outstanding job of reading and recording books each week. Here is the Premiers’ Leader Board for July. Congratulations! Happy Reading!  Daniela Borgese (Librarian)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>Year 3 - Year 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation - Year 2</td>
<td>Penny - Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrah - Year 1</td>
<td>Charlotte R - Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia - Year 2</td>
<td>Caitlin - Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sienna - Year 1</td>
<td>Daniel S - Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ezrah – Foundation</td>
<td>John G – Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanisha - Year 2</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL CONCERT NEWS - Thursday 1st September
St Mary's students present ‘Thank you for the Music!’

FOUR WEEKS TO GO!!!
The children are working very hard to prepare their concert items! They are very excited and their items are starting to look fantastic!
The following costumes are to be organised by parents and brought to school by Friday 12th August.
All students will be performing in bare feet unless given footwear details in their costume information from their teacher.
Thank you to all the parents that are helping to prepare costumes, we couldn’t do it without you.
## Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Costume</th>
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| Foundation F | **Girls:** Plain black leggings  
**Boys:** Plain black jeans/pants  
Return letter with T-shirt size as soon as possible |
| Foundation T | **Girls:** Plain black leggings  
**Boys:** Plain black jeans/pants  
Return letter with T-shirt size as soon as possible |
| Year 1J   | **Girls:** Plain long sleeve black T-shirts and plain black leggings  
**Boys:** Black jeans/pants and plain long sleeve black T-shirt |
| Year 1S   | **Girls:** Plain coloured, knee length dress  
**Boys:** Black jeans/pants |
| Year 2B   | **Girls:** Plain long sleeve black T-shirts and plain black leggings  
**Boys:** Black jeans/pants and plain long sleeve black T-shirts |
| Year 2M   | **Girls:** Jeans shorts, plain neon T-shirt (yellow/pink/orange/green), frizzy hair.  
**Boys:** Black/blue jeans, baggy T-shirt with logo. |
| Year 3M   | **Girls:** Plain long sleeve black T-shirts and plain black leggings  
**Boys:** Black jeans/pants and plain long sleeve black T-shirts |
| Year 3S   | **Girls:** Denim skirts, cowboy boots, chequered shirt.  
**Boys:** Jeans/chinos. T-shirts and converse. |
| Year 4B   | Costumes are being organised by the school and your Parent Reps |
| Year 4F   | Costumes are being organised by the school and your Parent Reps |
| Year 5    | A letter has been sent home with costume details; please see Miss Malin or Miss Crispin if your child has not received this information. |
| Year 6    | A letter has been sent home with costume details; please see Miss Butson or Miss Crispin if your child has not received this information. |

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**Ruth Crispin** (Year 6 Classroom Teacher & Performing Arts Leader)

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**Extend OSHC at St Mary's - Primary School**

**Our recap:**
At the beginning of term we welcomed back some former staff members, after the departure of Team Leader, Dilan. The students have eagerly spent as much time outdoors as the weather permitted, playing basketball, Frisbee and soccer or on the school play equipment. Indoors, children enjoyed cooking pizza and pancakes. Our program has begun to review student knowledge of recycling by including a recycling aspect in each of our activities. These have included making Japanese kite fish, paper maché and emoji jars. This theme will be reoccurring as students adapt to reusing materials they have available to them already.  

**Juels, Team Leader**

**Kids Club Art Competition**  
‘Win A $200 Toys R Us Online Gift Card’  
Entries are now open for Extend’s Kids Club Competition! Submit your art entry online at extend.com.au between Monday 25 July and Friday 12 August, 2016. This year’s theme is ”My Extend Friends” For further details and terms visit extend.com.au.  
**BUT THERE’S MORE!** Help your After School Care service win a mystery incursion! Be sure to come along to After School Care to enter. See you there!

**Our Extend Nominated Superstars are...**
Amelia Thomas for consistently helping staff to tidy the program space.

**Last week’s activities:**
- **Monday 25th July:** Japanese Kite Fish
- **Tuesday 26th July:** Emoji jars - finishing
- **Wednesday 27th July:** Cardboard Weaving
- **Thursday 28th July:** Fruit and Vegetable Portraits
- **Friday 29th July:** Scavenger Hunt

PARENT PORTAL: extend.com.au
Parent & Friends Committee Update

P & F Mission Statement
Encouraging and strengthening the school community and coordinating social and fund raising events for additional educational resources for our children.

P & F Upcoming Dates for Term 3
P & F Meeting – Wednesday 3rd August, 7.45pm
Year 3 Cake Stall – Friday 19th August, 3.00 - 3.45pm
Father’s Day Breakfast – Tuesday 6th September (commencing at 7.30am, before school)

Thank you to the Year 5 parents who hosted last Friday’s Cake Stall (come rain, hail or shine!) and for all those who supported the Stall. All proceeds raised will go toward this year’s P& F fundraising goal.

P&F Committee Meeting
This will be held on Wednesday evening (3rd August) at 7.45pm. The meeting is open to all parents/guardians at St Mary’s.

Second Hand Uniform Stall
Please save school items that no longer fit your children and consider donating them to our Second Hand Uniform Stall which will be held at the end of Term 3.

Save the date! Father’s day breakfast
The breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday 6th September at 7.30am (before school). Information about the event will be sent out soon.

P & F Committee Fundraising Goals for 2016
We are well on our way toward this year’s aim to raise $20,000 that will go towards upgrading the school’s outdoor play equipment, having raised over $15,000. Let’s see how high we can go with the remainder of the year!

Questions? Please contact the P&F Management Committee, Ben Merlin and Anoushka Bondar at: smp.parentsandfriends@gmail.com
Restorative Practice Parent Session ‘Behaviour Management’
Monday 1st August 7:30pm

Jane Langley, Langait Connections
Facebook: Langait Connections  Twitter: Smiles9372
Email: jane.langley@optusnet.com.au

**PARENTING CHEAT SHEET**

1. Invest Time
   - Loving attention, warmth and care are critical for your child's development, learning, and self-esteem.
   - This kind of attention doesn't have to be a big deal – you just need to 'be in the moment' with your child.
   - Over time you can build a strong and positive relationship.

2. Be Proactive, Explicitly Teach, & use LABELLED PRAISE
   - Think about the skills and attributes you would like your child to have for the journey ahead.
   - These are the things we need to explicitly teach. When we say ‘Remember to use your manners’ this is vague and assumes children know what we mean.
   - We need to be clear on what good manners actually sound like. We need to be clear on what words will be used. It is then important we encourage these skills and attributes further through using labelled praise.

3. SET BOUNDARIES
   - Set age-appropriate boundaries for your children. Tighter when they are little then gradually widening as they grow and earn trust.

MODEL, INVEST TIME
And BUILD CONNECTIONS
- The little things we do every day help build a strong connection with our children. Over time these little investments add up. Look for opportunities to be involved. Be Present and Attentive. Talk. Most importantly Listen!!

- As teachers and parents we make too many assumptions that children and young people know what we are talking about. We expect they understand the concepts and terminology we use as well as the behaviour that is expected.

Labelled Praise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Labelled Praise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smart Job</td>
<td>What a great job of making your bed.</td>
<td>Smart Job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super</td>
<td>You did a super job on washing and putting away your clothes.</td>
<td>Super</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Way to go</td>
<td>You did a great job of picking up and putting away your toys.</td>
<td>Way to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very nice</td>
<td>I really like how you played with your friend today.</td>
<td>Very nice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Your child will know exactly what he/she did that you liked.*
*Your child will feel proud to get your attention and approval.*

Parenting within the funnel
PARENTING CHEAT SHEET

REMIND & EXPLAIN LESS
When we nag children, lecture them and constantly remind them we often drown them in a sea of blah. We need to talk less, talk slower and use less words. We also need to learn to use questions and wait time more effectively.

ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO EXPERIENCE CONSEQUENCES
When we rescue our kids and solve the problems for them we are preventing them from developing the skills, attributes and experiences they will need to overcome the challenges on the journey ahead. It’s important we equip our young people with the skills and plan to be happy, healthy and safe.

USE WRONGDOING AS TEACHING MOMENTS
When our children muck up we are presented with opportunities to teach our children about the choices they have made, the impact of these choices and what they could do differently next time. These are teaching moments.
If we choose to lecture our children we fail once again to seize an opportunity to develop the skills, thinking and behaviour we want them to have.

These days, I put more thought into long-term. I think about the kind of adults I hope my children will be and work backward to ask, "What can I do today to foster that?"

Kari Kubiszyn Kampakis