DEAR PARENTS,

Welcome to 2015, a new year of learning.

My name is Sally McFadyen and I have taken over the care and teaching of your children for the year. I have recently arrived in town from Coleambally where I have been teaching at St Peter's for the past nine years. I am familiar with Young as I have been visiting family here for the last 28 years but am looking forward to learning more about the town now that my own family has relocated here. I have felt very welcomed at St Mary's already and have enjoyed getting to know your children over the first few days.

What an exciting term we have ahead of us filled with many special events. Our Opening Mass is on 6th February. Parent Teacher Goal Setting evenings are at the beginning of Week 3. We have our Family Fun Night at the Young Aquatic Centre on the 19th February and the children will be creating artworks for the Art Show which will be held in Catholic School's Week in Week 7. This is a sample of just a few of our upcoming events.

Assembly- Year 2 assemblies are scheduled for Terms 2 and 4 this year.

Our topics across the curriculum this term are:
RE- God and God's Creation- "Wondrous God" The major focus of this unit is creation. Students recognise God as the giver of all that is good, experienced in people and the world around us.

Mathematics- We will be covering all strands of Mathematics this term with an aim to solidify concepts the children need strengthening. The children will be looking at number combinations and patterns in preparation for times tables.

English- In English we will be completing a unit on Journeying using a variety of rich texts. Children will have specific grammar and spelling focuses each week culminating in end of week tests on Fridays. The literacy block will take place in the mornings but
reading groups will not commence until Week 6. If you are able to assist with this please approach your child’s teacher.

NB: Home Reading will begin in Week 3.

**Creative Arts** - Activities will involve both drawing and painting.

**PDH** - Mr O’Brien will be teaching ‘Friendly Schools Plus’ to the Year 2 children during my Teacher Release Time

**SCIENCE** - We are investigating forces in Science, particularly the push and pull forces. Your child is welcome to bring in a simple push/pull toy next week to explain to the class which force enables it to move.

**PE** - Will be taught by Mr Keighley on Tuesdays for 2G while sport for all of Year 2 will take place with class teachers on Thursdays. Children are to wear Sport’s Uniform on both of these days.

**Homework** - Children are expected to learn their weekly spelling words by using the testing page which will be given out each week. An additional activity will be expected to be completed each week to support the Sound Waves unit. Children throughout the school will be completing one unit of Math’s Mentals each week.

**IT IS EXPECTED THAT CHILDREN WILL READ EVERY NIGHT!**

**HOUSE KEEPING**
- Library day is Wednesday.
- If your child is absent from school please remember to send a note in when they return to class. Similarly, children arriving late or leaving early will need a note.
- Please label all clothes and belongings.
- Remember to pack fruit and a water bottle each day.

**Book Covering:** Your children have been provided with a book pack. Please cover the following books and label with child’s name, class and subject.
- Busy Book 1, 2 & 3 - 128 page book
- Mathematics Grid Books x2
- Religion red 48 page book.

Finally, if you ever have any questions, concerns or would like to just catch up do not hesitate to make contact and arrange a time. Contact can be made via email or note but please allow sufficient time for a response. My email address has not been finalised yet but will be provided in due course. Alternatively, a note sent to school is another way of making contact.

Many thanks, Sally McFadyen  School Phone: 6382 5844