Dear Parents,

Having visited the classrooms last week for the Meet the Teacher Conferences, you will have noticed that St Mary’s classrooms have had a facelift over the holidays. Our teachers have embraced the concept of flexible learning spaces and the children are responding with purposefulness, excitement and enthusiasm.

All over the world, leading schools are utilising flexible learning spaces to educate children for an exciting future. St Mary’s students and teachers are thrilled to have joined this group.

Flexible learning spaces help children collaborate and learn in group settings, yet can be adapted to suit quiet, independent learning when the situation demands.

Flexible learning spaces are communal spaces which can be configured in a number of ways for specific learning experiences. This means they provide opportunities for people to work together in collaborative groups and also to work independently or in pairs.

Throughout the classrooms there are various ‘work stations’ that allow the students to choose where and how they best work, rather than having the traditional desk and chair for each child. Work stations include standing tables, smaller tables with yoga balls, mats and cushions, beanbags, lap trays, camp chairs, as well as a number of desks and chairs.

The children are embracing the more flexible learning environment. The goal is for each child to get to know themselves as learners and the most conducive environment to achieve their best in the full variety of learning situations.
Sporting Schools Grant – Success in 2017
We are delighted to report that Mrs Ryals has been successful once again in securing a Sporting Schools Grant for this term. This means that she will be able to continue to offer the children an exciting and wide-range of learning in Physical Education. Congratulations Amy and thank you for your wonderful enthusiasm!

Community Council Family Fun Night – Next Thursday!
Our first get together, the Community Council Fun Night, is planned for Thursday 23rd Feb at 5.50pm at the Young Aquatic Centre and we would like to invite everyone to come along for a relaxed evening together – a great opportunity to catch up after the break and welcome our new families. There will be a Sausage Sizzle and the usual snacks available from the shop. A fun and relaxing evening is assured. Please see the flyer late in the newsletter with a reply slip (please return this ASAP to help the CC with catering by this Friday 17th February) and more details.

Opening Mass – Next Wednesday!
The Opening Mass has also been advertised and we look forward to celebrating this important event with the children and parents who are able to join us. The Opening Mass is scheduled on Wednesday 22nd February at 9.00am at St Mary’s Church. Children Yr 1-6 will attend and should be dropped at the Church rather than at school that morning (children who travel by bus will be dropped at Hennessy and escorted to the Church by St Mary’s teachers). Kindy children do not attend school on Wednesdays during the month of February but they are very welcome to join us for Mass accompanied by a parent or adult. School Leaders (Captains & Vice Captains) will receive their badges during this event.

Infants Choir, Primary Choir, St Mary’s Band, Drum Corps
It is great to see lots of the children signing up for our musical groups. The slips for Choir, Band and Drum Corps are included in this newsletter and are also available from the Office. If you would like your child to learn a musical instrument from one of the YRSM tutors, forms can be collected from the Office.

In Conclusion…
The Garden Committee had a great meeting earlier this week and we are really excited to have arrived at the planting phase after all the months of preparations! Children from the Eco Garden Parliamentary Group joined the meeting and their leadership will be so important in making our gardens thrive.

The Community Council have their first meeting this evening and we will report on this meeting in the newsletter next week.

We had a visit this week from Sr Susan who will continue to connect us with our Presentation Sisters heritage. Lots to look forward to in 2017.

With best wishes,

Louise Grant
Principal
Let your light shine...

Matthew 5:14-16

**Virtue of the Week - Courtesy**

Courteous is showing others how much they matter to us by how we treat them. It is using kindness and tact when we speak and act. It is using our manners at all times, with all people - young and old. Courtesy can be a small gesture that makes all the difference to someone’s day. Some examples are: opening the door for someone, saying please and thank you or saying excuse me when wanting to pass by. Courtesy is showing value and respect to others.

Some important information for you:

**Opening School Mass - Next Wednesday**

**Wednesday 22nd February 2017, 9am at the St Mary’s Church**

Could we please ask that all children in Year 1-6 are dropped off at the Parish Centre next Wednesday morning. The children need to be there no later than 8.50am as Mass will begin at 9am. At the conclusion of the Mass, the children will be bused back to school. The children who normally catch a bus to school, will be dropped off at the Hennessy bus stop and will be met by a member of staff. Although the Kinder children do not attend school on Wednesdays, they are welcome to join us for Mass accompanied by a parent or adult. We invite all parents, carers and grandparents to join us at the Mass.

**Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday 1st March 2017 – Liturgies at school.

**Sacraments**

Confirmation - 31st May 2017
First Reconciliation - 7th September 2017
First Eucharist - 16th and 17th September 2017

**YEAR 6 PARENTS - PLEASE SEE AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM FR TOM BELOW.**

SACRAMENTS 2017 CONFIRMATION Year 6 (or older) Catholic parents who desire this Sacrament for their child need to phone the Parish Office on 6382 2222 between 9.30am and 1.30pm on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday to have an allotted time given to them so the Catholic parent can come and enrol their child with Fr. Tom. Enrolment dates are SATURDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY or SATURDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY - it will take TEN minutes.

Wishing you a peaceful week ahead.

Emma Taylor and Sarah Sullivan
Swimming School Spirit Medals

Congratulations to our following students who, on Friday, were presented with our inaugural School Spirit Medals. These students displayed great commitment, enthusiasm and courage. They involved themselves in all aspect of the carnival and were ready to assist in any way they could. They overcame their fears of competing by focusing, not on winning, but on having a go!

Jnr Boy & Girl: Josh Cameron and Brydee Clark
Int Boy & Girl: Max Connelly & Hayley Grotegoed
Snr Boy & Girl: Brody Smith & Chrissy Garlick

Archdiocesan Summer Trials

Well done to the following students who were selected to compete at the upcoming MacKillop Trials as part of the Archdiocesan team:

Tennis - Lucy Foster & Riley Burgess
Basketball - Maddie Druett & Keely Prest
Cricket – Max Jones & Dan Canellis

Students selected will need to complete the appropriate forms online as soon as possible please.

Winter Trials

Nominations will soon be sought for students in Year 5 and 6 to trial for selection in the Archdiocesan team for the following sports:

Rugby League Open
Rugby League (11 years)
Soccer
Hockey
Netball

Trials will be held on Monday 27th March. Students need to have considerable REPRESENTATIVE experience in their chosen sport.

Nominations forms will be available from the front office on Monday 20th February and are due back by Monday 6th March.

Leonne Challen
We have had a fantastic week in PE! The children have been participating in a Fitness obstacle course & competing against themselves & combining mathematics into our lessons! The children have been timing each other & recording themselves & trying to improve on their time! So much fun!
The obstacle course included sprints, mini hurdles, ladder agility training, bear crawls, agility jumping, hoop jumping, push ups & backward running!!!
PE combining Physical Activity and Maths!
St Mary's Primary School Community Council

Free family fun pool night

THURSDAY 23rd February 5.30PM
Slip & Slide

FREE BBQ
FREE DRINKS
ICE CREAMS

FREE POOL ENTRY FOR EVERYONE

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT
PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISION OF THEIR CHILD
CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/GRANDPARENT

Reply slip – free family fun night sausage sizzle 23rd February 2017, Young Aquatic Centre

Can you please email your order through to office.StMarysYoung@cg.catholic.edu.au Orders due by the 20th February

Family Name:_________________________________________________ Class:__________________
Number of Sausages:________________
### Class Awards

**Congratulations to the following students who received class awards this week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>KE</th>
<th>KR</th>
<th>1M</th>
<th>1P</th>
<th>1ST</th>
<th>2M</th>
<th>2W</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MJR Award</strong></td>
<td>Ivy Murphy</td>
<td>Mercadez</td>
<td>Cayden</td>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>Hudson</td>
<td>Matilda</td>
<td>Cady Aiken</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cartwright</td>
<td>Cross</td>
<td>Scanes</td>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td>Maggs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Excellence Award</strong></td>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>Bonnie</td>
<td>Sybella</td>
<td>Ella</td>
<td>Thomas Butt</td>
<td>Juliet O’Brien</td>
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<td></td>
<td>McDonald</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
<td>Cronin</td>
<td>Murphy</td>
<td>Eastwood</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Effort Award</strong></td>
<td>Leo Holt</td>
<td>Diesel</td>
<td>Paddy</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>Beau Zappa</td>
<td>Max Anderson</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Guida</td>
<td>Sullivan</td>
<td>Jewitt</td>
<td>Hewitt</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>3M</th>
<th>4C</th>
<th>4/5H</th>
<th>5S</th>
<th>6C</th>
<th>6M</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MJR Award</strong></td>
<td>Shaun McAlister</td>
<td>Riley Butcher</td>
<td>Reagan</td>
<td>James Payne</td>
<td>Bella</td>
<td>Ava Schilt</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Griffin</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brownlie</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Excellence Award</strong></td>
<td>Marli Shipp</td>
<td>Zoe McRae</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Jorja O’Brien</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>O’Connor</td>
<td>McDonald</td>
<td>Turner</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Effort Award</strong></td>
<td>Samantha Malkav</td>
<td>Clancy Douglas</td>
<td>Nic Powderly</td>
<td>Jett Smith</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Corben Bloor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>McRae</td>
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**Join us at the Young Aquatic Centre, Marina Street, Young for**

**Young’s Family Fun Duck Day**

**Sunday 19th February 2017  10am till 3pm**

- Face Painting
- Jumping castle
- Slip ‘n’ Slide
- BBQ/Donuts/Cakes

- Novelty events
- Duck Race
- Entry by gold coin
- Lucky gate prize

**Major Sponsors:**

[Image of sponsors logos]

**Proudly brought to you by:**

[Image of Young Aquatic Centre logo]
**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 16 Feb</td>
<td>Rachel Thomson, Sally Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 17 Feb</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED Kathy Batinich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20 Feb</td>
<td>Amy Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 21 Feb</td>
<td>Kathy Manchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 22 Feb</td>
<td>Natasha Guida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 23 Feb</td>
<td>Toni Holmes</td>
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</tbody>
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**Young Lions Soccer Club - 6-a-side Competition**

**Age groups:** Under 8s, U10s, U12s, U14s and U17s  
**When:** Wednesday afternoons from 4pm, starts 8th March 2017  
**Where:** Hall Brothers Oval  
**Ends:** The competition will run for 5 weeks and finishes 5th April  
**Registration:** Will open soon. Cost is included in winter rego fees

It is open to eligible children who will be playing winter soccer in 2017. You can nominate a team or just an individual player.

**REGISTRATIONS OPENING SOON**

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**Wake Up Wonderful**

Ross & Michele Turner  
Lovell Street,  
Young NSW 2594  
63822633

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**Forty Winks**

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**John Prest Building & Constructions**

* New Homes  
* Extensions  
* Commercial  
* General Building Needs

Mob: 0428 824 494  
prestbuilding@yahoo.com.au

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**Harden Geelan**

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**PLUMBER**

CADE — 0439 822 132  
RHEX — 0408 494 119

- PLUMBING  
- DRAINAGE  
- GAS FITTING  
- BLOCKED DRAINS  
- HOT WATER UNITS  
- BACK-FLOW PREVENTION  
- ALL MAINTENANCE WORK  
**24 HOUR SERVICE**

Licence number 231836C
Hennessy Catholic College, Young
All welcome, especially students in Years 5 and 6
Come and see the College in action!

OPEN DAY

Wednesday, 8 March 2017
1.00pm to 4.30pm

For further information, please contact the College on 6382.1486
Hot Dog Meal Deal
Friday 24th February

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Hot Dog
SAUCE / NO SAUCE
(Please circle one)

Snap Stick

Wizz Fizz

$6.00

Name ......................

Class ......................

**Please return taped to a bag with money enclosed by Monday 20th February

THERE WILL BE NO OTHER LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE ON Friday

Also available via Flexi Schools

Cut off time for flexischools - 5pm Monday 20th Feb
ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL
GARDENING CLUB

Do you have that green thumb about you?
Would you like to help out in the schools gardening club?

If so please contact the following people:

**Contact Us:**
St Mary’s Primary School,
Elizabeth Street
Young NSW 2594
Ph: (02) 6382 5844
Fax: (02) 6382 5157
Email: Office.StMarys.Young@cg.catholic.edu.au

**Principal Mrs Louise Grant**
- Louise.Grant@cg.catholic.edu.au

**Canteen Manager**
- Megan Coddington - (02) 63825671

**Parents**
- Ashley Smith - ph 0438 393 564 & Dianne Brunton - ph 0452 420 643
The Hilltops Community Hub will be holding a clothes swap event at the Harden Outreach Hub in May.

To make this event a success we are asking for donations/loan of:
- Good quality undamaged clothing and footwear
- Hats, scarfs and other accessories
- Clothing racks, clothes hangers and other display equipment, and
- A full length mirror

All donations or loan of equipment will be greatly appreciated and can be left at the Harden Hub on Wednesdays between 10am and 12.30pm or at the Young Hub, Monday to Friday 9am – 4pm.

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**MEDITATION & ENERGY TECHNIQUES**

Relax, Rebalance, Reconnect with your True Self

**Young Community Hub - 2c Campbell St Young**

**Saturday 18th February 9.30am – 12.30pm**

$15 includes tea and coffee

- Create a peaceful, compassionate healing space which connects all beings, all species and all life.

- Bring a photo of a loved one, person or animal. Let’s take the word *distant* out of distant healing and lose the labels of negative/positive, good/bad etc.

- The Medicine Buddha mantra (Healing Buddha) helps us reconnect to our creative and nurturing qualities. Enjoy sitting in the vibration from this ancient healing mantra.

**Beginners Welcome**

**Bookings – Young Community Hub 63826328**

**For more details – Alison McLean 0499868307**

Reiki master/teacher/practitioner, member of ARC, AARP, Shibumi.

Alison’s teacher Frans Stiene, is an international author and lay Shugendo monk. Shugendo is a tantric based practice usually connected to the Shingon or Tendai Buddhist lineage with Daoist influences.
Hilltops Community Hub and the Parent Education and Support Network Present

Art Therapy Workshop

ADULTS ONLY

Portrait workshop with Robyn Wheeler.

Mono Prints with Judy Barker

Upcycled craft workshop with Jenni Davis.

Saturday 4th March 2017
Young PCYC,
Lachlan St, Young
Registration at 8.45am
WORKSHOPS START AT 9AM
Morning and Afternoon Workshops

RSVP Essential for catering purposes
Please call Cathy at the Hub on 6382 6328, for further information and bookings.

Supported by:

together

PCYC

Celebrating 80 Years 2016