Dear Parents,

It has been lovely to meet so many parents so far. This term we will be busy with many different things to learn. The school newsletter is handed out every Wednesday and can be accessed online on the school website. It is important to check the newsletter each week to keep up with school events and upcoming dates.

**Eating times**
- Fruit Break 10:10am
- Lunch 11:20 -12pm
- Recess 1:30 – 2pm

**Library day is Friday with Mrs Murphy**

**PE is Tuesday with Mr Keighley for the first 5 weeks then it will change to Wednesday for the rest of the year.**

**Sport Day is Friday**

**Classroom News**

**What We’re Learning**

- **Religion** - Prayer with Jesus
- **Mathematics** - All strands
- **English** - Our English unit this term is “Let’s Read. In this unit, students develop their knowledge of concepts about print as they engage in a range of modeled and shared reading experiences. Students are taught specific skills and strategies for reading and comprehension. They learn to express themselves and respond to a variety of texts.
- **Science** - What’s it made of?
- **Creative Arts** - Our main focus is with different drawing media including, paint, dyes and rollers to create particular effects
- **PDHPE** - In Personal Development and Health students will be working through a unit called Personal Identity - Me and My mates. In Physical Education our focus will be on Gross Motor and ball skills.
- **History** - This is Me.

**Contact Details**

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**Important Dates**

- 6th February – Open School Mass
- 15th February – Family Night Aquatic Centre
- 5th March – Cross Country
- 14th March – St Mary’s School Ball
- 26th March – Easter Hat Parade
- 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th February – Kinder Rest Day

**House Keeping**

- If your child is absent from school please remember to send a note in when they return to class.
- Label all clothes and belongings.
- Children need to wear a hat.
- Remember to pack fruit and a water bottle each day.
- St Mary’s is a NUT FREE school.
- If you wish to bring in something to celebrate your child’s birthday, cupcakes are preferred as they are easier to distribute.
- Homework this year will involve Home Reading only.
- Reading Groups will start in Term 2.

**News Topic**

**Week 2:** My favourite book: Bring in your favourite book. Tell the class the title and the author of your favourite book and give a brief summary of the story.

**Week 3:** An exciting movie: Tell the class about a movie that you think is very exciting and interests you. Why do you find it exciting and interesting?

**Week 4:** An important event for me: Tell the class about something you have done or seen that is important to you. You could talk about your first day at school or about when you learned to ride your bike.

**Week 5:** My artefact: Bring in something that is important to you. It will probably be something that you have owned for a very long time. It may remind you of an important person, time or place. If you are unable to bring in the artefact then you might bring in a photograph or drawing of it.

**Week 6:** An important event for my family: Tell the class about an important event for your family. It could be the time that you moved house or the birth or marriage of a family member.

**Week 7:** An artwork (painting or photo) that I really like: Bring in an artwork that you really like. You may not be able to bring it in so bring a photo of it or a drawing of it.

**Week 8:** Friends and their importance: Explain the reasons that your friends are important to you. What have they done that is special and how has it made you feel? What special moments have you shared with your friends?

**Week 9:** Something that I have improved on during the first term: Tell the class something that you have improved upon during the first term. Think back to when you entered the classroom in January and what you have accomplished so far. Perhaps you have become a fantastic reader and you are reading chapter books now. Maybe your spelling and writing has improved or you are a much better listener.

**Week 10:** Free Choice

**Communication**

Starting in Week 4 I will be sending home at communication folder which will inform you of the activities that will occur during the week. This will be given out each Monday. It will allow you to write comments about any circumstances that may arise during the week relating to your child, and it will also allow me write any necessary comments. The communication book will be kept in your child’s reading folder. I will talk more about this during your conference.

**Conferences**

In Week 3 I will be conduct individual conferences with parents to learn more about your child. A timetable will be sent home and if you are unable to make your time slot, I am happy to reschedule your appointment to a time that is suitable. Please ensure the attached survey is returned before your conference time. I am looking forward to meeting with you.