



Term 4 Week 10
Wednesday 8th December 2021
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DIARY DATES

TERM 4	2021
Thursday 9 th December	Year 6 Graduation Liturgy and Ceremony 7pm
Friday 10 th December	Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm
Friday 10 th December	Year 6 EOY Event
Monday 13 th December	EOY Awards Assembly
Monday 13 th December	Meet the 2022 Teachers
Tuesday 14 th December	Year 6 Rewards Day
Tuesday 14 th December	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS
Wednesday 26 th January	Australia Day Holiday
Friday 28 th January	SDD Teachers commence MAI's
Monday 31 st January	SDD Student MAI's
Tuesday 1 st February	Years 1 – 6 return
Thursday 3 rd February	Kindergarten Commences
Friday 4 th February	Twilight Swimming Carnival 5 – 7pm

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

As this is the last 'official' Newsletter of the year and as we approach Christmas, I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to everyone in our community who has worked so hard to make our school a fantastic place to learn and work even during the extraordinary times we are living through. We are very lucky to have a wonderful staff, supportive parents and happy students. Being part of the Holy Name of Mary Parish, we are also blessed to have Fr Peter who is always happy to work with us and make our faith community stronger.

As this is the last Newsletter of the year I thought I would share this famous and beautiful piece by Robert Louis Stevenson...

A Prayer for Christmas Morning by Robert Louis Stevenson

The day of joy returns, Father in Heaven, and crowns another year with peace and good will.

Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

Close the doors of hate and open the doors of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil, by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. **May the Christmas morning** make us happy to be thy children, **And the Christmas evening** bring us to our bed with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus sake.

Amen

From my family to yours I wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

Richard Blissenden
Principal



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Please note we will publish a Principal's Update next week with a list of Award Winners, notes of Farewell, a full staff list for 2022 and final messages!

COUNTERACTING SUMMER READING LOSS

A phenomenon where students reading skills regress from the end of one year to the start of another. Research has shown that not having access to books during the summer holidays can result in a regression of skills of up to 2 months each summer. Research suggests that the key ingredients include:

- Students choosing their own books based on their interests; this is especially important for early readers; matching books to students' reading levels is less important than interest;
- Students getting 10-12 books for the summer;
- Students owning the books (versus borrowing them);
- Students getting series books with familiar language and literacy elements;
- Students selecting slightly more challenging books each summer;
- Students getting e-book or audio formats that provide access to more challenging material;
- Teachers and parents framing summer reading as fun rather than work, with the goal being enjoyment and exploration rather than remediation and achievement gains.

Cont..

Additionally students are encouraged to join the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge with the chance to win great prizes!

Why does Santa have 3 gardens? Because he likes to ho ho ho!



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



December 11	Isla M Mabel H
December 12	Aimon L
December 13	Tyler N
December 14	Nathaniel N
December 16	Anthony C
December 17	Nathan D
December 19	Daniel A Renaë A Aaron A
December 20	Elina S Tabitha M
December 22	Kevin A Maya R
December 23	Logan H
December 24	Sienna G Louis I
December 25	Isabella M Misha K
December 28	Michael L
December 29	Annabelle R
December 31	Gus G

We wish these children a very Happy Birthday!

FROM MR BLISSENDEN...

ARE YOU LEAVING THE ST MARY'S SCHOOL COMMUNITY AT THE END OF THIS TERM?

Please –

- Ensure all Library Books are returned to the Library.
- Return all Reading Books to the class teacher.
- Ensure that all school fees have been paid in full – see the ladies in the office.
- Collect all of your child's exercise books – these can be used at your child's new school.
- If you will not need your child's uniform, school or library bag you can donate them to the Clothing Pool.
- **Notify us in writing of the name of the school your child will be attending, new contact details and the date of last day at St Mary's (a government requirement)**
Please note: This does not include students in Year 6 moving onto high school as we already have this information.

LIBRARY NEWS

A Call for all Library Books.

There are still many library books that are roaming around
that need to find their way home to familiar surrounds.

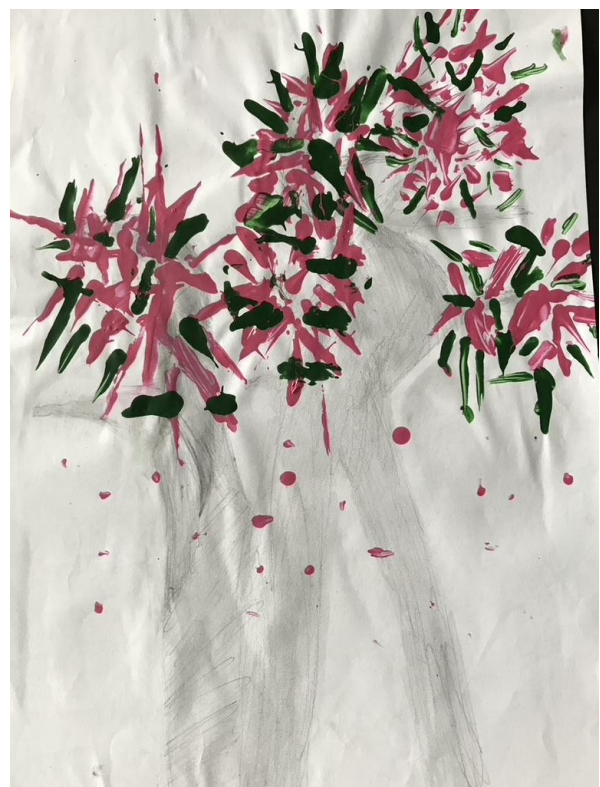
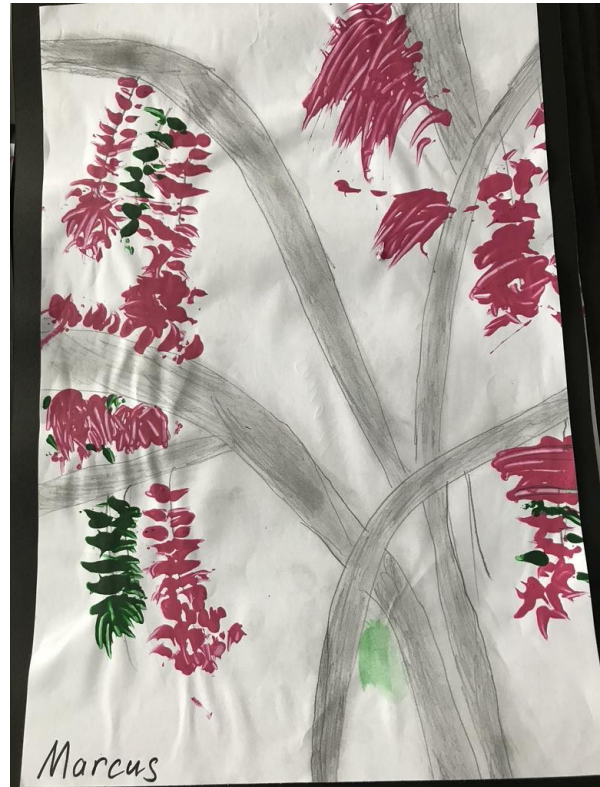
So please have a good look around
and help turn my frown upside down.

Return any books as soon as you can
so they can be back on the shelves from where they began!



Thank you.
Mrs Radocchia

YEAR 2 JACARANDA SKETCHES



ST MARY'S 2021 ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS	
Winner – Age Champion	Runner Up Age Champion
2021 Age Champion 8 Years Boys - Anson Y 8 Years Girls – Jemma L 8 Years Girls – Angelina B	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 8 Years Boys - Christian G 8 Years Girls – Sienna D
2021 Age Champion 9 Years Boys - Luca N 9 Years Girls – Siena C	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 9 Years Boys - Oscar L 9 Years Girls – Amy L
2021 Age Champion 10 Years Boys - Michael K 10 Years Girls - Grace B	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 10 Years Boys – Antony W 10 Years Girls – Kristen D
2021 Age Champion 11 Years Boys – Daashan W 11 Years Girls - Kiara Z	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 11 Years Boys – Thomas L 11 Years Boys – Samuel V 11 Years Girls – Alyssa T
2021 Age Champion 12 Years Boys – Samuel M 12 Years Girls – Lucinda B	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 12 Years Boys – Hayden G 12 Years Girls – Rachael G

ST MARY'S SWIMMING CHAMPIONS	
Winner – Age Champion	Runner Up Age Champion
2021 Age Champion 8 Years Boys - Marcus R 8 Years Girls – Priscilla M	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 8 Years Girls – Joanne J
2021 Age Champion 9 Years Boys – James F 9 Years Girls – Amy L	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 9 Years Boys – Harry G
2021 Age Champion 10 Years Boys – Antony W 10 Year Girls – Molly L	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 10 Years Boys – Alexander M
2021 Age Champion 11 Years Boys – Michael K 11 Years Girls – Esther L	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 11 Years Boys – Gus G 11 Years Boys – Eddie A 11 Years Girls – Isla M
2021 Age Champion 12 Years Boys – Robbie F 12 Years Girls – Rachel G	2021 Runner Up Age Champion 12 Years Boys – Samuel M

KINDERGARTEN WOMBATS

Today the Kindergarten Wombats lunchtime group celebrated the end of a very eventful year with a Christmas tea party. We enjoyed sitting down to a cup of 'tea' and some delicious cupcakes baked by Mrs Woods. We sat together and enjoyed sharing memories of our Wednesday lunchtimes, including playing with playdough, racing some cars and creating beautiful Christmas decorations.

Merry Christmas from the Wombats group!

Mrs Woods and Mrs Davison



KINDIFARM INCURSION

