



SPIRIT OF MERCY GUIDING ME, STRENGTHENING ME, CHALLENGING ME

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NEWSLETTER

Week 2 | Term 4 | 2018

From the Principal....

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

At St Mary's Catholic School, we have an extremely active and support P & F. Each month we gather in the staffroom to discuss our collective goals, which are focused on student learning.

Last term, Aleisha Johnson and Angela Stevens co-ordinated an extremely successful Trivia Night. The event was extremely well attended by members of our school and wider community. All feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive. This can be attributed to the brilliant organisational skills of both Angela and Aleisha and the fact that the P & F and staff all shared the same vision for the event.

The Trivia Night raised over \$3 000, which will contribute towards the purchase of an Early Literacy Intervention Program called Initial-Lit. In 2019, Mrs Krystal Land will complete her training in Initial-Lit and this program will be rolled out in Term 1. The P & F have already committed to funding the second phase of this Intervention Program called MiniLit in 2019. The final phase called Multilit will then cover all children from P - 6 and will target literacy skill development.

Without the dedication, love and energy from our parents, we would not be able to fund such programs to implement in our school. We would like to thank Angela and Aleisha for coordinating the Trivia Night and to all parents, family and friends who attended the event or assisted prior to or on the night of the event. We all had a ball!!!



NAPLAN Success

St Mary's consistently achieves excellent academic results and this year's NAPLAN results are no exception. Our Year 3 cohort achieved substantially above when compared against all "like schools" in the areas of Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Numeracy, with Writing being rated above all "like schools". The Year 5 cohort achieved above standard in Grammar and Numeracy, and close to "like schools" in Reading and Spelling.

When ranked against our neighbouring schools in Bowen, our Year 3 students achieved top results across all areas, with the exception of writing where we were ranked second. The Year 5 students also achieved top results across all areas, with the exception of placing second in the area of spelling.

What this tells us is that St Mary's continues to maintain its exceptionally high standard of results, of which we should be very proud.

Once we receive the NAPLAN data, as a staff, we analyse the findings and discuss the following;

- What do we see in the data?
- What insights can we provide for what we see?
- What targets can we set for 2019 and what strategies do we need to put in place to reach those targets?
- What support will we need to put the strategies into action?
- How will we monitor the strategies so that we know they are working?

Colette Williams

Principal





NEWSLETTER

RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Plenary Council Meeting

What is the Plenary Council?

Together, we are on a journey of listening to God by listening to one another. We invite all Australians to engage in an open and inclusive process of listening, dialogue and discernment about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia.

Your voice is needed – join in! Speak boldly and with passion, listen with an open and humble heart. With faith and guided by God's Holy Spirit, we journey together, toward the future.

On Saturday 13th October, Bishop Tim visited our school along with Geoff Gowdie, from the Diocesan Office. Fr Thomas and 20 members of our community were also in attendance at our first Plenary Council Meeting. The purpose of this gathering was to begin dialogue and to listen in order of understanding **What does it mean to be a Catholic in Australia Today?** and **What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?**

To begin the session, Bishop Tim stated the “We are the Church” and that we all need to take responsibility for our Church. To do this, we need to open our doors, to open our mindset and to listen to the voices of all. To do this, we need to use our intelligent devices; our heart and brain.

Over the coming months, we will continue to host discussion groups in the lead up to the Plenary Council in 2020 so that all of our voices can be heard.



God Bless

Colette Williams

APRE



NEWSLETTER

Upcoming EVENTS

Term 4

8 October - 7 December

Week 3

22 Oct Pupil Free Day

25 Oct Uniform Committee Mtg 3.15pm

25 Oct Ladies Night Mtg 3.45pm

25 Oct Donut Drive

26 Oct - World Teacher's Day

26 Oct Day for Daniel—wear RED

27 Oct St Mary's Catholic School

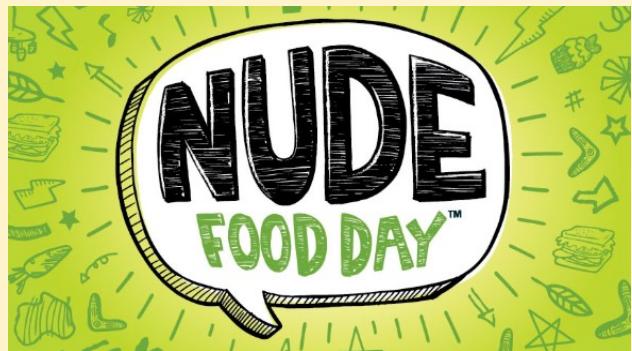
Meet and Greet

9.30am—11am

Week 4

31st Oct Halloween Dress Up Day

3rd Nov Ladies Night - Larrikin Hotel 6pm



For the duration of this term, every Wednesday we would like to promote "Nude Food". The purpose of "Nude Food Day" is to encourage children to "Try for 5" to increase their daily consumption of fruit and vegetables. Each Wednesday, we would like you to pack a super healthy lunch box for your child. Those children who bring along a healthy lunch box will be awarded a raffle ticket, with the winner from each class receiving a lunch box at the end of the term. To make the lunch box truly "Nude", we ask that you do not use any plastic wrappers or snap lock bags!!! Good luck!!!





NEWSLETTER

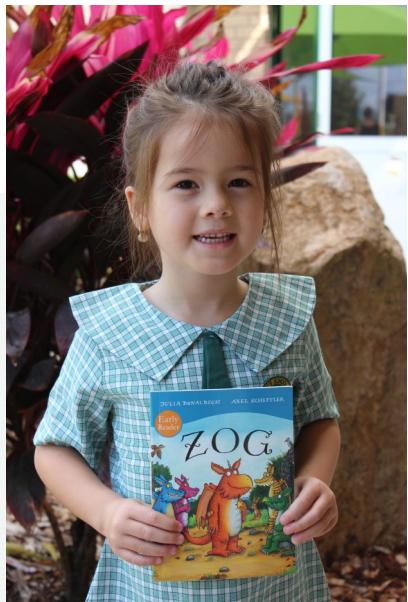
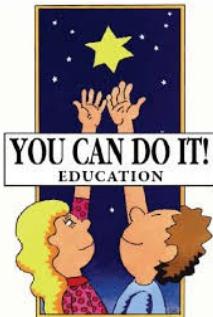
YCDI Awards



Congratulations to the YCDI Awardees for Week 1

Back L to R: Ebony Donnelly, Roxy Johnson and Karlee Cairns

L to R: Domingo del Solar, Nick Dayrit, Chloe Gordon, Anna Schultz
and Samantha Pugh.



Congratulations to Matilda Smith (Prep) who was the lucky YCDI Book Award winner for Week 1. Great book Matilda!!!

Principal's Award

Congratulations to the following students who received Principal Awards:

Lucas Poljakovic Yr1/2 For always smiling brightly every day.

Rorie Phillips Yr 5/6 For having such amazing musical talent.

Ella Menzies Yr 3/4 For always positively contributing to morning prayer.

Harry Menzies Prep For being an early bird.





NEWSLETTER

NEED HELP WITH THE NDIS?



Drop in for a chat with Feros Care

The Feros Care Local Area Coordination Team will be out and about in Mackay in October. Visit them for help and support with the NDIS.

Catherine Morris, Head of Special Education Program department from Bowen State High School has organised for a member of *Feros Care* to attend the Bowen State High School to hold a Parent/Carer Information session on the NDIS.

An invitation is extended to any parents/carers from our school community to attend the following sessions to meet the *Feros Care* team.

Details are as follows:

Tuesday 4th December from 3pm to 5pm there will be a presentation to at Mckenna Hall.

Wednesday 5th December—a *Feros Care* representative will hold one on one sessions in the morning with 15min time slots available.

For more information please contact *Feros Care* on 1300 986 970.



Day for Daniel will be celebrated at St Mary's on Friday 26th October 2018. ALL students are invited to wear RED on this day. A GOLD coin donation will be collected to support the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. Students are reminded that they are required to wear the correct school footwear.

Planning Group for 2019 Debutante Ball

This important function in the St Mary's Parish Social Calendar needs a dedicated group of volunteers to plan and run the 2019 Debutante Ball. The core planners of the Ball from the last couple of years are wanting to hand over the organising to a new group of volunteers. These people will be available to support the new group.

A meeting will be held sometime in November (with a date to be advised) to allow anyone who is interested to be part of the 2019 organising group to meet with the 2018 planners and set up structures that will hopefully result in a successful Debutante Ball in 2019.

If you are interested in being part of this planning group, please contact Claire Brazil on mobile number 0427279832.





NEWSLETTER

ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL, BOWEN

JOIN US FOR OUR
**PRE-PREP TRANSITION
PROGRAM**

FREE TO ALL PRE-PREP CHILDREN
IN OUR COMMUNITY

9AM - 2PM

EVERY FRIDAY DURING TERM 3 AND 4

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**Halloween Dress-up Day
Wednesday 31st October**



All children are invited to come along to school dressed in their spookiest costumes!!!

Gold Coin Donation



**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
BOWEN**