



*Marymount Primary School acknowledges the Kombumerri People of the Yugambah Nation as the traditional custodians of this land.
We are committed to work for reconciliation and justice.*

Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians,

Year 6 Leadership Ceremony

Today, at our main school assembly, our Year 6 children for 2018 were presented with badges to signify their role as leaders in the school. One of our new Associate Priests, Fr Saji, led our liturgy and blessed the children in their role as school leaders. Our Year 6 children play a very important part in helping to set the tone for our school. We have been blessed over the years to have had great groups of children who excel in many aspects. They have been caring, considerate and genuinely proud to be a part of our school community. This year's group of children (just under 150 of them) are no different and we look forward to working together with them to help create a truly Christian environment here at Marymount Primary. The children can't do such great things on their own however and this is where our Year 6 teaching staff play a crucial role in helping to develop our leaders. Our thanks goes to Maree Wright, Bronwyn Ward, Jonnene Bellis, Dan Allsopp and Matt Redmond for the wonderful work they have already done so far this year in helping to set up the children and we wish them all well for the year ahead.

Parent Teacher Online – Parent Interview Times – Term One

In today's newsletter you will find information about our Parent Teacher Online program which we use to co-ordinate the individual parent interviews with class teachers. The program is part of the suite of applications on the Parent Portal and it is one which we have used for the last three years.

Our P/T interviews will take place over the course of Weeks 8 and 9 (March 12 – 23). Parents will be able to access this part of our Portal shortly in order to log in times (fifteen minute time slots) to discuss your child's progress for this year. These interviews form an important part of the communication channels between our school and yourselves and as such it is critical that you find the time to come along to them. If for some reason you cannot access the PTO program please contact Anna Rofe in our Parent Reception.

Gold Coast Commonwealth Games 2018

This exciting event will be on us in a matter of weeks and schools have been informed about some of the issues which may affect our normal routines and daily life. One of the main issues is going to be the traffic congestion which comes with staging such a massive and global undertaking. We have been informed that from Week 10 (the last week of term – March 26 – 29) we will notice a marked increase in traffic volume as athletes and the ensuing entourages – media, emergency services, etc - begin to arrive. This may cause problems for bus runs and your ability to get to school on time for drop-offs and pick-ups. Even though we are not directly in a Games precinct as such we are close to a number of main traffic arteries for the Coast and there will be flow-on effects from our proximity to them. As a school we have begun to look at contingencies for these types of issues for our staff as well. Our Outside School Hours Care facility has also been made aware of these issues and they too have had to look at offering a different program as they will be operating in the peak games competition time.

One direct effect of the Games is that school will not start for Term Two until Tuesday, 17 April.

This is due to the fact that the closing ceremony will be on the Sunday evening and many of our school buses will not be able to get back to their regions / towns / cities in time for the normal school runs. Buses / coaches are being sourced from right across the south-east to cater for the transport of the visitors to the Coast.

The organisers of the Commonwealth Games have set up a website which will help to answer many of your questions in relation to the effects of the Games on our city. It's going to be very exciting but not without a few hiccups and this website should help to keep you informed of how you may be affected. The website is under the Get Set for the Games title and its link is www.getsetforthegames.com. There will also be a quick guide on our Parent Portal for you. These links are well worth the time and may help you out in when the Games are on.

Parking Inspectors to Visit

We have been advised by the Gold Coast City Council that their Parking Inspectors will be visiting our region in the next week or two. The Council periodically sends their Inspectors out in an effort to ensure that correct and safe parking measures are followed in our school precinct. Areas marked by yellow lines or designated as short-term parking will be targeted as well as those parents who park illegally on grassed areas. Thanks to those who do set the right example for our children to follow and care about the safety of the children here.

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Coming Events

Wednesday February 21
Whole School Assembly -
Year 6 Badge Ceremony
School Disco

Thursday February 22
Year 4M - Bike Safety
Year 1 - Street Science

Friday February 23
10am - Year 6 Mass

Wednesday February 28
Whole School Assembly - 2M
Ozanam Villa - 1A
Year 6 Leadership Liturgy -
St Kevin's



Disco

TONIGHT

Details in this newsletter

Mass Times

Children Mass

(Mary, Mother of Mercy Church -
children read at Mass)
5.30pm - 1st Sunday each month

Children's Liturgy of the Word

(Mary, Mother of Mercy Church -
children are withdrawn for brief
lesson)

10.00am - 2nd & 4th Sundays;
5.30pm - 3rd Sunday
8.30am - each Sunday (school
term) St Benedict's, Mudgeeraba

Parish Mass Times

Saturday - 5.00pm - Miami;
6.00pm - Palm Beach;
6.15pm - Burleigh Heads;

Sunday - 7.00am - Palm Beach
& Burleigh;

8.30am - Mudgeeraba & Miami;
10.00am and 5.30pm - Mary,
Mother of Mercy Church.

Tuesday - 7.30am -
Mary, Mother of Mercy

Friday - 12.00pm -
Mary, Mother of Mercy

Gold Coast Catholic Schools' Leadership Cluster Meeting – Thursday & Friday, 22 & 23 February

This coming Thursday and Friday will see the Leadership Teams of all of our Gold Coast Catholic Schools join together for our annual goal-setting meetings. Our Senior Leader – Learning & Identity, Annette Duffy, will be leading our schools as we look at the current trends in education as well as ensuring that we are staying faithful to government and Brisbane Catholic Education guidelines and policies. In our absence Mrs Leigh Yates will be our Teacher in Charge.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

In a few weeks I will be joining a group of principals, senior leaders and Brisbane Catholic Education personnel for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Our Executive Director, Pam Betts, and our Vicar General of Education in the Archdiocese of Brisbane, Monsignor Peter Meneely, will be leading our group as we spend just over two weeks visiting many of the sites that we regularly hear of in our weekend Gospels. We will be spending time in and around Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, the River Jordan, Bethlehem, Nazareth and so on. This pilgrimage forms part of my ongoing Professional Development as a leader in a Catholic school. It is an amazing opportunity for us and with Monsignor Peter with us we will be able to attend most of the religious sacred places as well as celebrate masses there. I will fly out on Saturday, 3 March, and return to school on Wednesday, 21 March. In my absence Mrs Tina O'Keefe, our Assistant Principal, will take over as Acting Principal. Tina is an experienced educator and leader and I'm sure that she will receive your full support. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to become involved in such a worthwhile professional opportunity.

Thanks for reading
Yours in Christ

Greg Casey

A Note from the Guidance Counsellors

"It takes a village to raise a child because in a village there are always enough kids to form a play group". Anon.

Michael Grose reminds us of the importance for children to spend time with their peers. Some of the benefits of spending free time with peers are:

- Learning to negotiate and communicate, generally through play.
- Becoming independent faster by becoming less reliant on adults to solve problems for them
- Becoming less anxious - by confronting fears rather than avoiding them
- Becoming more innovative – children are naturally drawn to the newest innovations in the larger culture around them
- Getting along better with others – they learn to accept each other's differences; learn how to assert themselves while accommodating the needs of others and respecting opinions of others not just their own.

The Insights article for this week encourages the culture of childhood. Michael states that by doing this "it doesn't mean that we devalue what we offer as adults to children and young people. Kids also need to be able to fit into the adult culture that we are preparing them for. However it's important to recognise the value of sibling and peer relationships in the development of the skills and attitudes need for a successful adult life".

We wish you well for the week ahead

Mary Sanders and Melissa Stevenson

DISCO TONIGHT

Doyle Centre

Years P-3 - 5-6pm

Years 4-6 - 6.30 -8pm

Hawaiian / beach theme

\$3 entry and \$1 drinks and chips

\$2 Sausage sizzle

Please remind students that covered shoes and appropriate clothing must be worn.

All students must be picked up from the Doyle Centre by a parent or guardian.

Children are not to be unsupervised outside the Doyle.



Parent Portal

Below will outline some of the important functions which parents/guardians will require within the Parent Portal over the next few weeks. As communicated, this is also the place to access Class News Blogs and other important Announcements. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date, especially your current email address. It would be helpful to ensure that email communication is not diverting to 'junk/trash/spam' folders.

Parent-Teacher Interviews – March 2018

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held from Monday 12th March until Friday 23rd March. At Marymount Primary School, we deeply value the positive partnerships we develop and nurture with families and the wider community. We acknowledge that families live very busy lives and appreciate the time that you take to meet with teachers.

As with previous years, interview times will be available to book through our Parent Teacher Online (PTO) application within the Parent Portal soon (see below). You will receive an email next week with details to assist you with this process.



ParentPaperwork – Paperless Permission Slips

We successfully launched "ParentPaperwork" with Year 6 on Monday and thank parents for their swift response and positive feedback. We will also use this system for Year 5 Camp. ParentPaperwork is an online system that replaces all the paper forms we send home for you to complete and return. By moving to an online system the school anticipates making good savings in time and cost compared with managing a paper process.

The online system is extremely easy for parents to use. Instead of paper forms coming home in your child's school bag, you will be sent an email notification, with a link to click that opens a secure web page version of the form to complete and submit. You can do this on your phone, tablet or computer. You do not need to download any apps or register. You can also access the note through the Permission Forms section (as shown above).



The online system is a much more efficient way to capture all this information from you, and means teachers and the administration staff can easily keep track of who has returned their forms. All of the data you submit in the forms is held in a secure database and is only accessible to selected school staff. You can read more at <https://www.parentpaperwork.com/parents>.

NAPLAN 2018

After extensive preparations, our school will be moving to NAPLAN Online this year. NAPLAN Online assesses the same literacy and numeracy skills as the paper-based tests but in an online format and students will use the devices they use regularly in the classroom to complete the tests.

Our Year 3 and 5 students are scheduled to complete their testing in mid to late May with practice testing now being planned for late March to ensure each of our students is familiar with the new way of testing and well prepared.

One of the advantages of our students competing NAPLAN Online is that their results are expected to come back within weeks rather than months. While NAPLAN is just one of many assessment methods to track your child's progress, this quick turnaround will mean the results can better inform classroom practice and help advance your child's learning here at Marymount Primary School.

We will ensure you have plenty of information about NAPLAN Online through regular emails and information and on our Parent Portal, but if you have any questions at any time feel free to ask.

Students and parents of all year levels who'd like to know more about the move to NAPLAN Online are welcome to visit the public demonstration site. Here you can take a practice test and learn more about the special features of NAPLAN Online.

Year 3 and Year 5 families will receive an email early next week with more specific information.

Lee Meiklejohn

Year 6 Leaders - It was with pleasure that we welcomed our school chaplain Fr Saji to our school assembly for the first time today. Fr Saji led us in prayer as the 2018 group of 142 student leaders were recognised and commissioned.



The scripture readings used today capture the essence of the style of servant leadership that the students follow – we work together, using our particular skills and talents, to do Christ's work in our everyday lives here at Marymount.

Our school community congratulates the students and we look forward to working with them during the coming months.

Year 6 Pledge

*Lord, teach us to be generous in serving you;
to give ourselves, our talents and our time without complaining;
to try to do good, even when it is difficult;
to be interested in helping others without giving up;
to spend this year in a spirit of giving
so that we may live in joy and peace with you
and with each other. AMEN.*

Social Justice Crew

This is a dedicated volunteer group made up of Year Five and Six students who offer their time and efforts for others. The Social Justice Crew believes in promoting dignity of the human person. They do this by speaking out at assemblies, fundraising and making other students aware of the needs of others, in our country and our world. The crew for 2018 is:



Sophie Ackerman, Rhanita Edgar, Grace Jackson, Zali Williams, Olivia Heritage, Lucy Tyson, Carys Garrett-Jones, Molly Attrill, Erin Arthur, Milly Harris, Macey Tudehope, Olivia Keating, Teagan McAuliffe, Stephanie Josey, Jordan Bruce, Fergus Brazel, Angus Nunan, Jake Podmore, Jack Lynch and Cooper Sankey.

Patron Parents

We are currently compiling the list of parents who will act as contacts for others, known at Marymount as Patron Parents. The role is primarily a pastoral one and the major responsibilities include welcoming and facilitating connections between people. We hope to let you know the names of this group in the coming week.

Ozanam Villa

1M In our first visit for the year, students from 1M sang two songs, read books and gave the residents of Ozanam Villa cards they had made.





**YEAR 6
2018**



SCHOOL FEE REMINDER

A reminder that Term 1 2018 School Fees are due & payable on Monday 26 February 2018. Late fees will apply after the due date. Parents/Caregivers who have payment plans in place will not be affected by late fees.

Direct Debit, Automated Credit Card and BPay payment options are available for your convenience. Please contact our Accounts Department on 55208412, 55208481 or 55208417 for assistance.

CONCESSION APPLICATIONS ARE CLOSING

Please note that completed concession application forms must be sent to the Accounts Office marked to the attention of Janelle Holmes **no later than Friday 5th March 2018** to be considered for this Term. If you do not submit your application within this timeframe you will jeopardize your chances of approval being granted for Term 1.

Applications must be received with all supporting documentation attached including a Current Centrelink Income Statement & Full Taxation Returns, before your application can be assessed. This year the processes have changed slightly where an interview may not be required if all documentation is supplied. Please phone Janelle Holmes from our Accounts Office on 55208417 if you have any queries.

Did you know that Albert Einstein played the Violin?

He frequently played classical music as a brainstorming technique, which inspired him to develop some of the most elegant theories in science.

Playing the violin is also known to improve memory, fine motor skills, mental health and creativity, social awareness, mathematical reasoning, and playing an instrument is the only activity that simultaneously engages both hemispheres of the brain. Scientific studies demonstrate that engagement with Music Education in a formal setting benefits academic success in many other areas of schooling. It is empowering, rewarding and - as Einstein said - "I know that most joy in my life has come to me from my violin".



Sport News

Oceanic District Swimming

Well done to all of our Marymount Primary students who competed at the Oceanic District Swimming Carnival last Thursday 15 February at Miami Aquatic Centre. Listed below are the students who attended last weeks carnival.

10yr Girls Class
Frankie Leonardi 4R
Chelsea Smyth 4A
Eadie Sangston 5Y

10yr Boys Class
Jake Williams 4R
Tristan Callaghan 4Y
Oliver Kelly 4M
Oliver Andrews 5R

11yr Girls
Belle Sly 5Y
Amy Newton 5P
Luka Leonardi 6R

11yr Boys
Dane Fraser 6M
Oliver Mainey 5M
Dillon Howell 6Y
Patrick Eveleigh 5M
Hayden Riddell 5R

12yr Girls
Millar Brosnan-Ball 6Y
Indy Locke 6Y

12yr Boys
Cooper Harrison 6Y
Ben Cervenak 6A
Taj Lockett 6Y

Congratulation to Millar Brosnan-Ball who was named 12Y Girls Age Champion and Jake Williams who took out the 10Y Boys Age Champion.



Regional Swimming Trials

From last week's Oceanic District Swimming Carnival, 12 of our Marymount Students have qualified to compete at the South Coast Regional Swimming Trials on Monday 26 February. Well done to the 8 girls and 6 boys who will swim for a place in the Regional team to compete at the State Swimming Carnival.

10Y Girls
Frankie Leonardi
Eadie Sangston
Chelsea Smyth

10Y Boys
Oliver Andrews
Tristan Callaghan
Oliver Kelly
Jake Williams

11Y Girls
Luka Leonardi
Any Newton
Belle Sly
Lucy Tyson

11Y Boys
Dane Fraser
Dillon Howell

12Y girls
Millar Brosnan-Ball

Oceanic District Hockey

Congratulations to Lucas Munoz Aghemio, Anya Prior and Keira McFadzen who have been selected in the U12 Boys and U12 Girls Oceanic District Hockey teams to play at the South Coast Hockey Trials.

Oceanic District Basketball

Congratulations to Taj Lockett and Strummer Lopez how have been selected in the Oceanic U12 Boys Basketball team to play at the South Coast Basketball Trials.

Congratulations also to Kiara Wright and Lauren Ryan who have been selected in the Oceanic U12 Girls Basketball team to play at the South Coast Basketball Trials.

Oceanic District Netball

Congratulations to Millar Brosnan-Ball and Kawani Abody who have been selected in the U12 Oceanic District Girls Netball team to play at the South Coast Netball Trials.

Congratulations to Bronte Parker and Sophia Mattar who have been selected in the U11 Girls Oceanic District Netball team to play at the South Coast Netball Trials.

Paul Hill

Marymount College now enrolling Year 7 2019 & 2020

Principal's Tours Tuesday 20 February 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:20pm

Meet the Principal and Administration Team, and tour the Franciscan Centre, Hospitality Kitchens, Media & Technology Centre, Art Studios, Science Labs, Library & Resource Centre, Canteen, Senior Precinct, Industrial Design & Technology Workshops, Gymnasium, and Theatre.

Bookings essential tours@marymount.qld.edu.au

BURLEIGH HEADS CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Office Hours 9.00am to 5.00pm

3 Sunlight Drive, Burleigh Waters (Postal PO Box 73, Burleigh Heads)

Phone: 5576 6466

Parish Business & Finance Manager: Mr Jim Littlefield

Parish Pastoral Team

EMAIL: burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Priest: Fr Morgan Batt

Associate Pastor: Fr Saji & Fr Ladu



Peer time counts big time towards your child's success

by Michael Grose

"It takes a village to raise a child because in a village there are always enough kids to form a play group." Anon

Life for children and teenagers is generally very busy and adult-initiated. A quick glance at most kids' after school schedules will reveal at least two after school activities (involving sport/ physical activity or classes of some sort) each week that are organised and lead by an adult. Nothing wrong with that however the more time children spend in adult-initiated activities the less free time they have to spend among themselves, and the enormous benefits this brings.

Spending free time with peers benefits kids in these ways:

1. They learn to negotiate and communicate

Young children generally communicate with one another through play, and the communications have real meaning. They negotiate about what and how to play. Typically kids will make up the rules of any game, modifying them as they go along, and challenging other children's interpretations. *"You're not playing by the rules"* is a common childhood retort most of us are familiar with. Left to their own devices kids will generally resolve such conflict situations more creatively, and with more finality than when adults become involved.

Teenage peer-to-peer communications often focus on emotions and the struggles they experience. Adolescents learn they can be honest with their friends, as they are less likely to overreact and assume control, the way that their parents or other adults might.

2. They become independent quicker

When children spend more time among themselves they become less reliant on adults to solve problems for them. In fact, when kids play among themselves someone will take on the authority of an adult and ensure that problems are resolved, usually more quickly and more equitably than when an adults attempts to do so.

Typically when kids of any age get together they act in ways that can mock and challenge adulthood – young children will use 'naughty' words and teenagers push parent boundaries so they can gather together away from adults. This type of independence-seeking is the default mechanism of kids of all ages, but it can be stifled by well-meaning, over-involved or over-controlling adults.

3. They are less anxious

"I dare you" is a phrase that evokes strong memories for many adults. It's a throw-back to a time when as children or teenagers we challenged each other to climb that tree, to cross that road and to go speak to that girl/boy. Of course, the biggest challenge we faced was to confront our fears rather than avoid them. Children of any

parenting*ideas

generation tend to be more courageous, and better able to learn to manage difficult emotions such as fear, nervousness and anxiousness when they spend more time with each other, away from adults.

4. They become more innovative

Adults of every generation bemoan the fact that children and teens don't play in the same way as they did when they were young. We forget that children are naturally drawn to the newest innovations in the larger culture around them. Where adults are naturally suspicious of change, children will invariably embrace it. This is shown by children's eagerness to embrace digital technology, which is often far ahead of their parents and teachers. Children's culture focuses, quite naturally and adaptively, on the skills important to the world they are growing into, not the world as it was, when their parents and teachers were growing up.

5. They get along better with others

The biggest requirement for kids mixing with siblings and peers is that they must get along with each other. They need to accept each other's differences; learn how to assert themselves while accommodating the needs of others and respect other kids' opinions, not just their own. This type of socialisation is central to being a member of civil society. The skills of "getting along" are best practised among equals and for kids that means practising on their peers and siblings. These "getting along" skills may be well be the most important skills for kids to develop if they are to lead a successful adult life -including maintaining long-term partnerships, making friends and enjoying cooperative relationships in the workplace.

Encourage a culture of childhood

As a parent or teacher it helps to see the time kids spend among friends and siblings as valuable rather than wasted time. Encourage kids to spend time with each other and resist the urge to rush in fix things up between peers and siblings when relationships sour or they have problems to resolve. And resist the natural urge of most parents who lead small families to know everything that's happening in a child's life -kids need some time and space to work things out themselves.



Kids need to belong to two cultures

Encouraging a culture of childhood doesn't mean that we devalue what we offer as adults to children and young people. Kids also need to be able to fit into the adult culture that we are preparing them for. However it's important to recognise the value of sibling and peer relationships in the development of the skills and attitudes needed for a successful adult life.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 10 books for parents including Thriving! and the best-selling Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It, and his latest release Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children.



Come & Try HOCKEY

March 7th, 4:00 to 5:00pm

**Pizzey Park
(Behind the Beach
Volleyball Courts)**

**Equipment provided.
A game for the whole
family.
Catering for all ages and
abilities from 5 to 70.
New players always
welcome.**

**Check us out at
hockeyburleigh.com**



Proudly Supported by



DANCE AUDITIONS



For students
commencing
2019 & 2020

Email info@marymount.qld.edu.au

to book your audition
for Marymount College
Extension Dance Program

SUNDAY 25 MARCH

MARYMOUNT COLLEGE