Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Year 4 Camp – 2 – 4 November

Next Monday our Year 4 classes head off for their annual camp at Tallebudgerra Creek Outdoor Education Camp. This will be an exciting camp and for many of our children it is their first time away as a group of school children. The camp provides some wonderful facilities and the staff are very experienced teachers, many of whom have worked with our children over the years. Some of the classes will start their camp off with a leisurely stroll around Burleigh Headland which we trialled last year. It proved to be worthwhile and this year we are trialling it with some more. I would like to thank our teachers for giving up their own family time in order to ensure a great experience for our children. The following staff will be accompanying the classes – Belinda Norton-Smith, Chris Buzolic, Chris Britton, John Jensen, Paul Hill and Luke Cervenak. Our best wishes go with all of our campers for a great three days.

World Teachers Day / World Educators Day – Friday, 30 October

World Teachers Day is celebrated internationally each year at the end of October and it is a great way to recognise the hard work and untiring efforts which our teachers put in to their role here at Marymount. As a school we believe that it isn’t just our teachers that we should recognise but our support staff as well. We see our School Officers (their official title) as complementing the work done by our teachers and often they do the unseen things and much of the ‘behind the scenes’ gear that keeps our school ticking over. This can range from our financial staff to our office and secretarial staff right through to our Learning Enhancement and classroom teacher Assistants. So this Friday we will be celebrating for all of our staff. Maybe this could be a great chance for you as parents to send in a note or write an email to wish our staff well for the day. Please know that any such recognition is very well received by all staff members.

Sports Shoes Policy

Over the last year or so we have had a number of discussions in regards to our Uniform Policy. Much of the discussion has focussed on the policy statement for our school sports shoes. At the moment we ask for children to wear ‘predominately white’ sports shoes. We are very much aware that it is getting harder and harder to be able to get predominantly white shoes as many of them have varieties of colours intertwined. It is in this light that we have decided to make a change to the policy for the Sports shoes only. The change to come into effect from now on will be that the children can wear traditional joggers / sports shoes of any colour for their sports shoes but they cannot wear slip-on canvas shoes, high cut (ankle high) basketball shoes or flat-soled skate shoes. This doesn’t mean that our current shoes need to be thrown out as children can also still wear these. We discussed these changes at this morning’s assembly so that the children are receiving a consistent message from our staff on the changes. Thank you for your assistance with this matter and I trust that this will make the issue of finding suitable sports footwear easier for all.

Marymount College Awards Night – tonight – Doyle Centre

Our College is celebrating their annual Awards night this evening with a program jammed full of the many and varied wonderful achievements which the children have accomplished. It is always a very special night to honour all of the children for their hard work and perseverance over the year. Congratulations to you if one of your children is receiving an award tonight and best wishes to the College for a smoothly run evening.

Melbourne Cup Picks

It’s that time of the year again when some people get excited about the first Tuesday in November in Melbourne and a 3200m run around the park at a place called Flemington. My history of finding a winner isn’t great and it’s made all the more difficult when you need to pick a week in advance. For what it’s worth, and I wouldn’t put my life savings on it, I am picking an overseas horse called Hokko Brave. It’s one of the Japanese horses and it has great wraps. Good luck!

All the best for the rest of the week.

Yours in Christ

Greg Casey
Could my child be helped by the school speech pathologist?

As a speech pathologist in this school, I will be able to assist children who
• have trouble understanding others (receptive language)
• have difficulties sharing thoughts, ideas and feelings completely (expressive language)
• experience difficulties correctly producing speech sounds (articulation or pronouncing sounds)
• experience trouble speaking fluently, or
• have difficulties with their voice.

If your child has a current Speech Pathology report it is important that you share it with the school so that we can determine how to best support your child in the classroom. As the school-based speech pathologist, I am happy to discuss with your therapist the current focus for therapy and ways that we can work together, towards the best outcome for your child.

Sharon Cummings
School-based Speech Pathologist

Medical All Stars

The updated paperwork for the 2016 Marymount Medical All Stars is now due. We ask parents and caregivers to attend to this very important matter and return the necessary forms as soon as possible.

A reminder that if your child’s Action Plan does not require any changes, it can be kept for signing by your medical practitioner and returned to the school at your earliest convenience.

Many thanks
Helen Brosnan
LEC teacher

Congratulations to Jasper Williams who received a highly Commended in the Year 5 Public Speaking competition held last week.

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School Banking calling for volunteers - We need your help!

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time students make a deposit at school they receive a Dollarmites token which can be redeemed for a range of exciting reward items in recognition of their regular savings. Students have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool gifts.

Due to the movement of many of our current volunteers we need more parents or guardians to assist with the School banking. This only takes a small amount of your time on a Tuesday morning, and involves counting the children’s money and stamping their deposit books. Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they develop vital saving skills and also help our school with fundraising.

The Commonwealth Bank provides support to our School Banking Co-ordinators with the running of the program, and full training will be provided!

Please indicate your interest in volunteering for this great program by filling in the tear off section below and return to the main school office, Student Reception.

Yes, I would like to help with School Banking!

Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________
Availability: ________________________

SPEECH PATHOLOGIST CHATTER

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Year 4 camp: Monday 2nd November to Wednesday 4th

The wait for Year 4 camp is nearly over and it's wonderful to see both teachers and students excited about their forthcoming adventure. The students were advised of their cabin allocation and activity group last Monday. I thank the Year 4 teachers for their help in coordinating groupings and Mrs Keillah for her assistance in ensuring we have the correct medical information for each child.

Ms Dani Forsyth and myself will be attending the camp as extras for the day activities and we are both looking forward to joining in the fun. Mr Hill, Mr Jensen and Mr Cervenak will be balancing out the teacher gender difference on camp. Big cheers of appreciation go to all of the teachers attending. Thank you for giving up your personal and family time to ensure the Year 4 students have a memorable experience.

A few important reminders for Monday:

1) Children are to place their luggage in class groups in the undercover area in-between the staffroom and pool. Class signs will on display.
2) Children are to take their small backpack (which should contain a hat, water bottle, sunscreen and morning tea) to their usual bag area.
3) All medications are to be handed to the classroom teacher by the parent/care-giver in a sealed bag with the child’s name on the outside. All medications MUST be accompanied by a signed ‘Student Medication Request Form’ (parents should’ve signed this with the original camp paperwork but extra forms are available from Student Reception)
4) No child is permitted to self-medicate with the exception of asthma puffers which may be carried during the activities
5) On our return on Wednesday, the classroom teacher will hand the medication back to the parent/caregiver who collects the child from the bus area.
6) We should be back at approximately 1.30pm on Wednesday 4th November and children can be picked up from the main car park at the front of the school.

Here’s to a great week.
Laura Mitchell

Long Serving Years of Service to Catholic Education

Today at assembly we recognised Una Deem and Jan Marais who have reached twenty and thirty years respectively of generous service and dedication to Catholic Education in Queensland. We congratulate Una and Jan on reaching these milestones in their teaching careers.

Congratulations also to Annette O’Shea (30 years), Marg Reddan (20 years) and Annette Straker (20 years) who will receive their awards at a later date.

Thank you for your generosity

As a result of our Silly Sock Day on Friday we have sent $ 1032.55 to Catholic Missions to support the children living in poverty in Madagascar, a small country off the Coast of Africa. This money will aid Catholic Missions to provide them with safe drinking water and improved sanitation.

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. Matthew 25:35

Hygiene Packs

The Marymount Social Justice Crew made 100 Hygiene Packs that they presented to Mr. Keith Furness from St Vincent de Paul at assembly today. These packs include a toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, face washer, soap, shampoo, comb, nail file, lip balm, hand wipes and tissues in a snaplock bag. St Vincent de Paul will distribute these packs to people who are homeless and in hospital.

Enjoy the rest of the week

Maree Wright
**Representative Netball**

Congratulations to several of our Grade 6 girls who have been selected into representative netball teams over the last few weeks.

Keeley Swaddling and Bailey Miles have been selected into the South Coast Rep team to play at the State Carnival here on the Gold Coast in July 2016.

Georgina Ward and Holly Sankey have been selected into the South Coast Challenge team to play in Townsville in September 2016.

Pippi Harris, Zoe Riddell and Shannon Nolan have been selected into the Hinterland District Netball Association Rep team to also play in Townsville in September 2016.

Well done girls, great effort.

*Paul Hill*

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**All By Myself in 1P**

Luke displays his wonderful work about a recent incursion held in Year One.