Dear Parents and Friends

After another positive School Term where there has been great teaching and learning taking place in our classrooms and with World Teachers’ Day being celebrated on 29 October, I share with you the following reflection.

**GOD LOVES TEACHERS**
On the 6th day, God created men and women. On the 7th day, he rested.

Not so much to recuperate, but rather to prepare himself for the work he was going to do on the next day. For it was on that day—the 8th day—that God created the FIRST TEACHER.

This TEACHER, though taken from among men and women, had several significant modifications. In general, God made the TEACHER more durable than other men and women. The TEACHER was made to arise at a very early hour and to go to bed no earlier than 11:30 p.m. with no rest in between. The TEACHER had to be able to withstand being locked up in an air-tight classroom for five hours with twenty plus "lively little people" on a rainy Monday.

Yes, God made the TEACHER tough...but gentle too. The TEACHER was equipped with soft hands to wipe away the tears of the fragile and lonely student.

And into the TEACHER God poured a generous amount of patience. Patience when a student asks to repeat the directions the TEACHER has just repeated for someone else. Patience when a student has forgotten to return the excursion permission note and the class is lined up and the bus is waiting.

And God gave the TEACHER a heart slightly bigger than the average human heart. For the TEACHER's heart had to be big enough to love the student who exclaims, "I hate this class—every thing we do is boring!"

And lastly, God gave the TEACHER an abundant supply of Hope. For God knew that the TEACHER would always be hoping. Hoping that each day is a positive one for each student. Hoping that each student is able to reach their full potential.

When God finished creating the TEACHER, he stepped back and admired the work of his hands. And God saw that the TEACHER was good. Very Good! And God smiled, for when he looked at the TEACHER, he saw into the future. He knew that the future is in the hands of the TEACHERS.

“Teaching has an extraordinary moral depth and is one of (humankind’s) most excellent and creative activities, for the teacher does not write on inanimate material, but on the very spirits of human beings.” (The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium.n 19)
BUILDING UPDATE
Handover day of our new learning spaces is Thursday 30 September. Plans are underway for the Official Opening which will be held on Friday 15 October at 10.00am. All families are warmly invited to attend. You are asked to contact Fran Jolley (ph.94334000) or email fjolley@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au if you would like to attend the Official Opening.

It has been decided that our new building will be named “MacKillop Learning Centre” in honour of Mary MacKillop who will be Canonised two days after the opening of our building. Mary was a teacher and dedicated her life to caring for others, so we feel proud that our new learning space should carry her name.

The Building will also be open on Monday 4 October (the first day of Term 4) between 2.30pm and 4.00pm for parents and parishioners to come and view this new facility and also on Sunday 10 October between 9.00am and 9.30am and 11.30 and 12.00noon.

CONGRATULATIONS
Last week at the School Administrators’ Annual Conference, Mrs. Fran Jolley’s twenty plus years of service to Catholic Education was recognized. Fran was presented with an award and congratulated by the Deputy Director of Catholic Education, Ms Nancy Bicchieri. Congratulations Fran and thank you for giving all these years of dedicated service to the community of St. Mary’s.

SUN HATS
All students are required to wear sun hats as from now until the end of April. This is in keeping with guidelines as listed in our Sunsmart Policy that was reviewed and ratified by the School Advisory Board earlier this year.

SCHOOL CROSSING
We are extremely pleased to see that we now have two School Crossing Supervisors on the Grimshaw Street Crossing directly in front of the school. For some time, Colleen Scully, on behalf of the school, has been lobbying Council for this service. On behalf of all, I thank Colleen for her diligence in seeing this project through and thus achieving a wonderful result. I’m sure we all appreciate that this arrangement will provide a safer environment for our children.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY
A random selection of families recently received a survey which focuses on how parents view the “health” of our school environment. Thank you to all participants who have completed this survey. Tomorrow is the last day when Data can be entered online. It would be appreciated if all hard copies of the survey could be returned to the school Office by tomorrow.

NO FOOD SHARE POLICY
Due to the number of students who have an allergy to various food groups, we have a “No Food Share” policy. Therefore, I ask that party food or lollies not be sent to share with classmates. This is often the practice when a birthday is being celebrated, therefore I ask that you consider sending other items that could be shared on such occasions such as stickers, pencils, rubbers.

COLES DOCKETS
We have registered for the Coles docket for Sports Program. When you shop at Coles, please ask for your vouchers at the register. Every $10 spent gives us 1 point towards free sports goods. Please bring your dockets to school and place in Drop Box in the Foyer by 31 October.

PROGRAMS TERM 4
Dance Program. Yr 3, 5 and 6 will attend the Footsteps Dance Program each Wednesday for 10 weeks commencing on Wednesday 6 October. Normal uniform is to be worn on these days other than if this is your child’s sports or PE day. Please note, Yr 5 and 6 students will participate in a Basket Supper Dance night at Latrobe University on Thursday evening 25 November. All family members are
invited to attend the Basket Supper Dance night.

Swimming. Yr 2 and Yr 4 students will participate in Swimming programs. Yr 2's stroke and water safety program will commence on Monday 11 October and will run over 6 weeks. Yr 4 will attend a 6 week Water Safety Program commencing on Monday 11 October. Sports Uniforms are to be worn for the Swimming Program.

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL 3D IMAGING PROGRAM
This week staff from the RCH has been in attendance conducting the 3D Imaging Program. There was a very positive response from our students. I thank all those parents who supported this program.

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD REPORT
Meeting held on Thursday 26 August.
Members were taken on a tour through the new school building and were both impressed and excited about this wonderful new learning space. It is anticipated that the new school building will be completed at the end of September after final issues have been sorted. The Opening Ceremony will take place on Friday 15 October and organisation for this is underway.

The board discussed community grants and in particular the National Solar Energy Grant. It is hoped that there may be opportunities to apply for funding under this scheme for our 2nd stage building project e.g. fans, solar panels, rainwater tanks etc. The board will discuss this further at their next meeting.

Two new school policies were presented and discussed. These policies are: 'Student Mobile Phone & Digital Technologies' and 'Camera Use'. The policies will be reviewed again at the next meeting after suggested amendments have been made.

The board discussed the creation of a community garden at the back of the new school building. Each class will have their own garden bed and the students along with their families will be encouraged to care for it.

TERM BREAK- FINISH TIME
The school will close on Friday 17 September at 1.45pm for the Term 3 break and resume at 8.50am on Monday 4 October. I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time and trust we all return renewed and ready for a great Term 4.

COMING EVENTS
September

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Australian Children's Choir Assessment Session 2.30pm</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Strategic Planning Meeting 7.30pm</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>OOSH Meeting 7.30pm</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Yr 1 and 2 Sea Expo 2.30pm</td>
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October

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Term 4 Commences 8.50am</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>MacKillop Learning Centre Open 2.30pm-4.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Yr 3, 5 and 6 Footsteps Program Parents’ Association Meeting 7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>MacKillop Learning Centre Open 9.00am-9.30am and 11.30am-12.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Official Opening of MacKillop Learning Centre 10.00am</td>
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Regards

Helen

FROM THE CLASSROOM

COMMEDIA D'ARTE
Next Tuesday the Year 5 and 6 students will be enjoying a production in Italian involving the production company “Make a Scene”. The performance is centred around Carnevale of Venice and the comedy sketches that have been famous for hundreds of years.

Italian Poetry Competition
This week the year 6 students recited their Italian poem, La Bandiera Italiana, to a visiting teacher who was our judge. She commented before leaving on how well the students performed. Well done ragazzi!
ATTENTION
GRADE 6 PARENTS

We have had some issues arise with the Grade 6 logo on the Bomber Jacket and Polo Shirt such as peeling, fading and cracking. If you are experiencing any problems with the Grade 6 Logo, please leave the item/s of clothing in the uniform shop in a clearly labelled bag with your child's name and class by Friday 17 September 9.30am. The item/s will be sent of to the supplier, replaced and returned to the school on Monday the first day of 4th term and handed back to your child.

Kim Reading (Uniform Shop Co-ordinator)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to the following children who will celebrate their birthday over the next 2 weeks:
Jessica Dyson, Lorena Perin, Noah Thorley, Joel Jacob, Joseph Macdonald, Dylan Collins, Emmerson Williams, Fiona Chong, Lily Colley, Mia Hall, Tara Stancombe, Aidan Allwood, Benjamin Leonard, Shenae Norden, Lachlan Scully, Stephanie Ciavarella, Brandon Negrin, Alessandro Giordano, Gianni Balassone, John Collum, Jacob Cain, Ryan Maerz, Isabella Scully

JOIN THE FLYING SAINTS

If you like to run, jump and throw and want to learn to do it better, come and join St Mary's Little Athletics Club. Please come to our FREE “Come and Try” days at Willinda Park (Talbot St) Greensborough on Saturday 11 & 18 September between 8.30am and 12 noon. We are under the light blue marquee at the southern end of the Centre. Athletics is great fun and offers great value for families with the season going from September to March. If you would like more information please contact Steve Burgess on 0409 008 672 or Rob Douglas on 0412 148 739.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the worthy recipients of this award to be presented at Assembly.
Year 6D S Marlon Gunawardana, Joel Jacob
Year 6G Sinead McKenna-Reid, Brandon Gabriel
Year 6 M Nathan Pingiato, Lauren Kearney
Year 5B Lucas Lin, Julia Di Cosmo
Year 5H Ashley Dwyer, Jean Cotter
Year 5ML Josh Bowler, Liam Burgess
Year 5V Lachlan Pickett, Naomi Whimpey
Year 4 C Sarah Moore, Emma Jolly
Year 4GR Riccy De Thomas, Zac Hudson
Year 4HP Hugh Collis, Alicia Li Rosi
Year 3 LM Thomas Radobulja, Ashleigh Rodrigues
Year 3 R Rory Hollowood, Daniel Lay
Year 3 W Andrew Abdulnour, Tahlia Labozetta
Year 2 C Mia Di Muzio, Alannah Alvaro
Year 2ML Ratheesh Sathasivam, Luke Marchetti
Year 2 W Isabella Ferronato, Matisse Febbrarino
Year 1 C Luke Gullone, Marc Callipari
Year 1 G Mitchell Seivers, Sham Jacobs
Year 1 R Ella Jowett, Connor Melville
Year P B
Year P S
Year P W

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS

The following volunteers are rostered on for the week commencing 13 & 20 September
Mon 13 L Ferella, M Di Cosmo, M Panucci
Tues 14 K Glasby, T Dwyer
Wed 15 R Georgiou, L Rodrigues, N Clayton, P Taplin
Thur 16 A Rizk, Poppy, B Carter, C McMillan
Fri 17 M Fell, a Di Carluccio, N Metaxas, C Gullone
Mon 20 R Howden, P Zammit, S Hawley, K Atkinson
Tues 21 L Hall, N Carnovale, L Markovac
Wed 22 H Simoncini, R Williamson, K Elvey
Thur 23 T Williams, A Phillips, C Wolczko
Fri 24 C Zanini, N Hassall, L Ana
WINTER MONTHS
TUCKSHOP SPECIALS
TERM THREE
Baked Spuds with Bolognese Sauce
and Fruit Salad or Yogurt and a bottle of
water or juice $5.50.
Baked Spuds with Bolognese Sauce $3.00
The above are available Monday to Wednesday
lunchtime only.
Soup of the Month
Homemade Pumpkin Soup $1.10

PARISH NEWS
MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
When was the last time you had a great
weekend just for the two of you? Forget life’s
tensions and interruptions and rekindle the
closeness, intimacy, love and romance that
brought you together in the first place. It is
based around Catholic values, but you don’t
need to be Catholic to attend. The next
weekend will be held on 15-17 October. For
further information and bookings contact
Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or Email
vicbookings@wwme.org.au. Checkout the
website for more information on
www.wwme.org.au

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
The Uniform shop will be open for
business during the following times:
Monday: 8:30am – 10:00am
Wednesday: 2:30pm – 4:00pm
Friday: 8:30am – 10:00am
You may order through the office, just complete
the order form and return it back to school.

RCIA AT ST MARY’S
Are you searching for a way to meet your
spiritual needs?
Do you feel the desire to know more about the
Catholic Church Community and to explore its
life? Perhaps you are married to a Catholic or
have children attending a Catholic School and
you want to know more about the Catholic
faith? Then YOU ARE INVITED TO COME
AND JOIN OTHER PARENTS at an RCIA
(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)
Information Session next Sunday 12th
September 4pm in the Parish House or phone
Jo at the parish office on 9435 1543 for an
information brochure.

ON SALE BY SILENT AUCTION
The Honey Eater

Your opportunity to own an original work of art
by renowned local artist and parishioner, Judy
Racz. The Honey Eater on display in the Church
Gathering space is on sale by Silent Auction.
All proceeds will go to the parish towards
costs of refurbishment. Bidding Forms are
available for completion at the Kitchen Counter
in the Church Gathering Space or from the
Parish Office. Please place your bid in the
box provided or drop into the parish office.
Bidding closes 7.30pm Saturday 2nd October
2010 with successful bidder announced at
10am Mass on the 3rd. Highest bid to date
$300.00. Don’t miss this opportunity-
Place your bid today.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS
NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday September 15th – 7.30pm in
the meeting room.
All welcome to attend the Monthly
Committee Meetings. We need your
Support, without a Committee the Program
is not able to operate. Come and join us for
a coffee. All suggestions, ideas and
assistance are greatly appreciated.
Last Day of TERM 3: Friday September 17th - NEED TO BOOK
If you would like to use the program on the last day of school please make your bookings now as normal bookings do not apply on this day. School is finishing at 1.45pm. The Program will run an extended session from 1.45pm to 6.30pm. Normal Friday afternoon bookings will NOT apply; so make sure you book a place by 9am on the Friday morning if you require care for this session. The cost will be $20 per child and includes lunch, afternoon tea and activities.

Lost Property Box: Please note if your child has lost something, check the lost property box. There are lots of jackets, hats and things that have been left behind at the Program. The box is kept under the sign in table. Thankyou.

Communication: There has been an Email account set up by the Program for any Parents who may want or need to contact the Executive Members of the Committee – smooshp@gmail.com
Any Email communication will be treated confidentially.

Accounts: Please ensure your account is up to date; all accounts are to be finalized at the end of Term 3. Please contact Barbara if you have any questions.

SCHOOL EVENTS
Reminder - all families involved in upcoming school events (camps, excursions etc.) please cancel any bookings you may have with the Program.

Program Morning Time Change:
Reminding all families the morning session is now Open from 7am.

Reminder - to all families that we are now fully booked on a Monday and Tuesday Morning and on Thursday Afternoons, therefore we are operating a waiting list. We are also very busy on Tuesday afternoons, so we ask that families cancel any permanent bookings as soon as possible. You can phone the program from as early as 7.00am. Cancellation messages can be left on the answering machine. Please leave clear messages including children's names, family name, session day & time. Thank You, SMOOSHP TEAM

COMMUNITY NEWS
SINGLE PARENTS ACTIVE KIDS
Bringing Single Parent Families Together
Family Fun Day - SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER
11am 1st Reservoir Scout Group Hall, Edwardes Lake Reservoir. Melways ref: 18 E4. Face Painting, Membership specials, Balloon Animals, Raffles, Free BBQ and Drinks, Entertainment for the Kids + So much more. We are a fun, social networking group for single Mums and Dads and their children. All enquiries welcome: Call Moush on 0430 504 119 or Alethea on 0416 422 138.
Website: www.singleparentsactivekids.org
E-mail: info@singleparentsactivekids.org

CRICKET VICTORIA:“SCHOOLYARD TO SPIRIT”
Free Girls only “Have-A-Go” cricket program
The 2010/11 Cricket season is coming up and now is the best time to get involved. Cricket Victoria will be running a series of FREE “Have-A-Go” programs during the September School holidays. The programs are aimed at giving girls aged 10-15 the opportunity to learn the skills of cricket, make new friends and have FUN! For more information and to register your interest visit the Cricket Victoria website at: www.cricketvictoria.com.au