Dear Parents and Friends

Next weekend, we commence the season of Advent. Advent is the season of waiting; waiting to commemorate Christ’s coming at Christmas. However, this year seems to have been a year of trying to “keep up” with little time to enjoy the pleasures of “waiting” and the dreaming and contemplation that are its luxuries.

The weeks leading up to Christmas tend to be a very busy time with end of year events and Christmas shopping often robbing us of the time to fully appreciate the significance of the gift of Christ given to us at Christmas. However, the presence of the Advent Wreath prepares us for the great celebrations of Christmas. Its candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and that his coming brought new hope to the people. As Christians, we believe that Jesus has come into our world bringing the good news of the Father’s love. He continues to come into our lives, inviting us to live in this way. As we enter into the season of Advent, take some time with your family to reflect on the true and wonderful meaning of Christmas.

Our Goal is to be:
A Safe, Inclusive, Happy and Respectful Community. For 2010, we will be working towards “Being Fair”

Our Value for Term Four is “Respect.”

PARISH FETE
St. Mary’s Parish Fete will be held this Saturday 20 November. Besides raising some well needed funds for our community, the Fete is always an event that is enjoyed by the students and is a lovely opportunity for us to come together. The weather is looking good for Saturday, so please come along and enjoy the day with others in our community.

CELEBRATING ST MARY’S FEAST DAY
St. Mary’s Feast day will be celebrated with Mass commencing at 9.15am on Wednesday 8 December. We will then hold a “fun day” on Friday 10 December. We will commence the day with a whole school Assembly and then the students will participate in a variety of activities. All students will enjoy a Magic Show. Other activities will be -Yr 5 and 6 Circus Skills: Yr 3 and 4 –Christmas Decorations Workshop: Prep-Yr2 - Footsteps Dance. Parents and friends are welcome to come along and join in the activities. A detailed program will be sent home.
EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
At St. Mary’s our students are offered many and varied extra curricular activities. Throughout this Term different Year Levels have participated in Swimming Programs, Gym Programs, Dance Programs, a Rugby Program, a multi-cultural Footy day at Victoria Park, Art Competitions and Yr 5 and 6 students will soon enjoy a Squash Clinic. Following the Rugby Program, Yr 5 and 6 students participated in a Rugby Gala Day. Our Yr 6 boys Team won this event and yesterday played against schools from across Victoria in the Billy Slater Shield Day. Although not the winners on this occasion, the boys performed extremely well and learnt much from the experience.

ART AWARD
On Saturday night, Dominic Douglas will be presented with a Young Australian Art Award for his art work titled “The Chain.” Dominic created this piece of work through digital enhancement. The award will be presented to Dominic at the Hilton on the Park in the city. Well done Dominic.

FUNDING FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
For some time the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria has been coordinating activities to raise the issue of fair state funding for Catholic schools in Victoria. Last week the Premier, Mr John Brumby and the Minister for Education, Bronwyn Pike, announced their support for Catholic schools with a commitment to link state funding to 25% of the cost of education in a state school. This commitment provides a sustainable level of state funding to our schools for the future. The Coalition had previously committed to providing funding to Catholic schools at 25% of the cost of education in a state school. This commitment by both parties is a good outcome for Catholic schools.

CAROLS NIGHT
Once again we will gather together at the Nillumbik Outdoor Entertainment Centre in Civic Drive Greensborough for our Carols night. This will be on Tuesday 7 December at 7pm. A back up night has been booked for Monday 13 December in the event of inclement weather.

CAR PARK
Parents are asked to park in the William Street Car Park during school hours as the car park area in front of the new MacKillop Learning Centre is used as a play area. Now that we have an excellent drive through-drop off/pick up area in our new car park, I ask that this facility be used for this purpose. At pick up time at 3.30pm, please do not park along the drive through area. This area is for quick pick up. Therefore, if using this facility, please arrive after 3.30pm and impress on your child that they are to come to the pick up area immediately after the home time bell.

ST. MARY’S COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT DATA BASE SURVEY
Have you completed the Community Involvement Data Base? If not, go to www.smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au and you will find the Survey under “Community” then go to “School Advisory Board.” It would be very much appreciated if you could log on and complete the Survey as information gathered will allow us to be better able to work together as an active community. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

BUILDING UPDATE
After many frustrations, we are almost ready to move into the MacKillop Learning Centre. It is looking terrific and it is our intention to move students into this facility shortly. Currently the pathway leading to the William Street Car Park is being concreted and then the Oval will be seeded. After many months of hard work, this first stage of our Master Plan is almost completed.

BASKET SUPPER DANCE
Our Year 5 / 6 Basket Supper Dance will be held on Thursday evening 25 November at Union Hall Latrobe University with dancing commencing at 7.00pm. This event allows our students to showcase their dancing skills following the Dance sessions that have been held throughout this Term. It is also a very social event where all family members can join in the dancing. Please ensure you have returned the request for tickets form so that seating can be organized.
WORKING BEE
The Maintenance Team has been very busy this year and much has been achieved. Our final Working Bee for the year will be held on Saturday 11 December. All Families are invited to come along and lend a hand with the final tasks for the year. A Christmas lunch will follow the Working Bee. Hope to see you there.

COMING EVENTS

November
18- School Nurse Visit
19
18  2011 Prep Orientation 9.30am-11.00am
20  Parish Fete
23  Prep Orientation and Christmas Party
24  Parents’ Association Meeting 7.00pm
25  Squash Clinics Yr 5 and 6
25  Basket Supper Dance Yr 5 and 6 at 7.00pm

December
1  2011 Prep Parent Information Night
7  Carols Night
8  St. Mary’s Feast Day Mass 9.15am
10  St. Mary’s Fun Day
11  Working Bee/Christmas Lunch
14  End of Year Mass 9.15am
14  Yr 6 Graduation
15  Students Finish 3.30pm

Regards

Helen

CONGRATULATIONS HELEN
We would like to congratulate Helen on being recognized by the CEO for “20 years of dedicated service in the ministry of leadership as Catholic Principal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne”. We are all so proud of you and thank you for everything you do for us.

FROM THE CLASSROOM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Congratulations to the following children who will celebrate their birthday over the next few weeks: Daniel Drzewucki, Cormac Brady, Regan Brady, Lachlan Dawber-Grant, Xavier Mira, Cole Bakoulas, Lachlan Pickett, Mia Di Muzio, Jack Goulding, Grace Papagianis, Claudia Di Medio, Elise Tripodi, Madeline Warren, Nicole Lewis, Hannah Wiid, Dominic Brennan, Isabella Ferronato, Alexia Malliadiis, Natalie Perri, Emma Perri, Sohaan Nath, Alicia Li Rosi, Niraatheeshan Sathasivam

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the worthy recipients of this award to be presented at Assembly.
Year 6D  Janine D’Souza, Josh Li Rosi
Year 6G  Rosa Goncalves, Alexia Malliadis
Year 6 M  Joel Eddington, Courtney Mifsud
Year 5B  Xavier Mira, Ruby Colley
Year 5H  Jessica Atkinson, Ben Broadby
Year 5ML Max Balcombe, Caitlin Williams
Year 5V  Thomas Williamson, Thomas Kelly
Year 4C  Lachlan Brady, Cassidy Gleson
Year 4GR  Chhavi Khathuria, Brandon Tarulli
Year 4HP  Shenae Norden, Michael Karaula
Year 3LM  Tegan Collier, Benjamin Leonard, Hollie Wolczko, Alessandro Giordano
Year 3R  Natalie Lewis, Nikki Pappas, Jack Goulding, Olivia Cattenazzi
Year 3W  Natasha Panucci, Luke Neri
Year 2C  Dominic Akuei, Isabella Dyson
Year 2ML Jett Posani, Grace Reginato
Year 2W  William Dynes, Phoebe Taplin
Year 1C  James Metaxas, Rory Williams
Year 1G  Aoife Rodden, Owen Lowe
Year 1R  Danielle Di Falco, Matthew Pane
Year P B  All of Prep B Students
Year P S  All of Prep S Students
Year P W  All of Prep W Students

SCHOOL BANKING
The last day for school banking for 2010 is Tuesday 30 November 2010.

Access to Parent Page via Myclasses Foyer
www.smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au/mydesktop
Please use your child’s Username and Password to access St Mary’s Parent Page in the Myclasses Foyer
AUSTRALASIAN OLYMPIADS
Throughout the year St Mary’s has had a team of 30 Year 5 & 6 students participate in the 2010 Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads. The official results have been released and we would like to congratulate all participants for their wonderful efforts. We are extremely proud to announce that Abbi Dib and Joshua Munro received trophies from Australasian Olympiads for their outstanding problem solving skills. Abbi Dib, Joshua Munro, Jacques Adamidis, Jasmine Awad, Joshua Glasby and Richard Lee all scored in the top 25% nationally and Todd McDowell received the Encouragement Award. Well done to our St Mary’s Maths Olympiad team. Shelly Michalke Maths Leadership Team

CANTEEN..CAN DO!
The spirit of generosity is alive and well in the parish of St Mary’s, Greensborough. A recent sleepover held by Year Six staff, students and parents of St Mary’s Primary School in support of the CanTeen organization was a great success with students managing to raise over $4300.00.

In response to the 2010 confirmation program, the Year Six students were invited to consider possible ways they could use their personal, God-given gifts in the service of others. After a series of meetings, the group of eighty students, in conjunction with their teachers; Mrs Shelly Michalke, Mr Damian Gilmore, Mrs Carolyn Smith and Mr John Dwyer decided upon CanTeen as a worthy recipient of their fundraising efforts.

The Year Six students enlisted the assistance of the entire school community and were blessed with the generous support of St Mary’s Parents’ Association who provided –a scrumptious evening meal, and a delicious hot breakfast for all the participants. There were also many brave parents who joined staff to ‘sleepover’ at school and their support contributed enormously to the overall success of the event. The students also received the kind support of several local businesses and would like to acknowledge and offer sincere thanks to the Greensborough Woolworths store and the Diamond Village Bakery who both generously contributed funds and food to assist the ‘CanTeen Sleepover’.

The funds raised will be used by CanTeen to further their vital work of supporting those aged between 12 and 24 years of age suffering from cancer. CanTeen provides financial, peer and moral support to young cancer patients and their families and is solely funded through public donations and community fundraising events. There were a number of students who raised in excess of $100 and the highest fundraiser was Johanna Scully who individually raised over $200 in support of CanTeen. All participants felt the event was a wonderful expression of the St Mary’s Catholic identity and the much needed funds were presented to Ms Ruby Hart from CanTeen at a recent school assembly by Principal, Mrs Helen Anderson.

Year 6 students with Principal Mrs Helen Anderson (far right) and Ms Ruby Hart (CanTeen).

John gave it the thumbs up
Maggie, Lucinda, Brittany, Rosemary & Johanna

As part of the Year Two Inquiry Unit “Come Out and Play” students in Year 2 wrote a personal profile, below is an excellent piece of writing from William Dynes 2W.

This is my place. My name is William but my dad calls me Billy Billy Bemel Burger. I turned 8 in May. My house is made out of bricks. Last year my house was getting two new rooms. One wall was used for the outside but now I have a brick wall inside.

In my backyard I have a HUGE trampoline and a cubby house that my dad built when my big sister was two. I also have a tree house. I like to play in it. It’s got a fireman’s pole and two ladders.

My Dad’s name is Peter. I watch Top Gear with him. On weekdays Dad rides his bike up the hill every morning to work. My mum’s name is Elizabeth. I kiss her when I go to bed. On Monday she drives to Austin in Heidelberg, she’s a nurse. Emma, my big sister, is a bossy boots. She doesn’t let me play games I like to play. On Tuesdays, Emma goes to Girl Guides and on Fridays, she does drama. My younger brother’s name is Edward. He likes to go on the trampoline and do tricks. His classroom is Prep W. My younger sister, Catherine, is funny and I fight with her. My dad and Catherine barrack for the same team, Brisbane Lions. She goes to Kindergarten on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday.

Candice, Damian & Shelly after the big night - still able to rise and shine with a smile.

SPORT NEWS
YEAR FIVE/SIX
RUGBY LEAGUE GALA DAY
On 11 November some year Five and Six students of the Watsonia district (Streeton, Greensborough, St Mary’s and Watsonia Heights) travelled to Yulong Reserve in Bundoora for a Rugby Gala Day. Everyone got into their teams which were prepared earlier and started playing Tag Rugby against the other schools. We had lots of time to have breaks for snacks and to cool down as the temperature was 28 degrees and even hotter after each match. Some of the schools we played against were tricky to play and sometimes we didn’t score as many tries but we all still tried our best. One St Mary’s Year Sixes Boys team got into the Tackle Team finals against Streeton Primary School and won. Now St Mary’s is going to represent the Watsonia District in the State final.

Sarah Bibby & Ben Broadby

On 11 November, St Mary’s Year Fives and Sixes participated in a rugby gala day with Melbourne Storm. About four schools participated in this event. The St Mary’s Saints were undefeated and played in the final against Greenhill’s Primary School. It was an even game at the start but with a dominating end St Mary’s had defeated Greenhills by four tries. It was a hot and sweaty day but everybody had an awesome time and finished with a massive cheer! All of our St Mary’s teams did a fantastic job and played with great team spirit. We would love to give a big thanks to Mr Healy and the Melbourne Storm members for organising such an exciting day for everyone. So now on 17 November St Mary’s Saints play in the state finals and we wish them luck.
Over the last few weeks the year five and sixes have been involved in a rugby clinic with cookie and Mizzy. We were taught how to play tag rugby so we could all compete at the rugby day. On 11 November 2101 (Remembrance Day) we travelled on a bus to Bundoora Park where we played rugby. Unlike the tackle teams the tag rugby is not able to go into the finals and is played mainly for fun. There were a lot of teams in the tag rugby for St Mary’s and there were 6 fields that we were spread across. The day was 29 degrees but we all found shade and had a fantastic time. Some of the teams were very successful and others just had some fun. In the end everyone was very tired and really sore but we all had a wonderful time.

RUGBY LEAGUE!
Congratulations to all our boys and girls who have competed in our recent Rugby Days. All students had a great time and were great sports. Special thanks to Diane Williams and Julie Atherton who were great helpers at our District Day. Thanks also to Gary Collings and Brenda McInnes who assisted with transport to the State Finals yesterday.

RUGBY LEAGUE FINAL
At Elwood Park on 17 November the St Mary’s rugby league boys tackle team went all guns and blazing at the Billy Slater Shield 2010. At first our opponents seemed daunting but when we put our heads together and gave it our all we weaved our way through the tacklers, scored brilliant tries, and tackled hard with bone crunching tackles. All day every player tried their best with nothing left in their tanks at the end of the day. Every game was a team effort. There were 12 boys in the team, they were: Zack, Josh, Emmet, Luke, Paul, Jack, Thomas, Toby, Thushan, Cooper, Joel and Adam. The boys came out with a few cuts and bruises here and there but it was well worth it as we finished second in our pool with 1 loss 1 draw and 3 wins. Every player contributed to the team’s success. If you were on the side lines watching you’d have thought that for sure we all played rugby but none of the boys who were part of the team had ever played rugby before (outstanding effort).

Congratulations to all the boys. Great job! A special thank you to Mr. Healy our coach for the day 😊 Emmet Brasier 6G

LIBRARY BOOK BORROWING CLOSING DATE
The end of the year is fast approaching and the library will be closing soon to commence end-of-the-year operations. Next week will be the last week for borrowing books. After the 26th November all books will need to be returned. Your assistance is sought in helping your child to return books promptly. Please contact me either by email (tstoove@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au) or letter for any problems regarding this matter. Tilly Stoove Teacher Librarian

PARENTS ASSOCIATION
TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS
The following volunteers are rostered on for the week commencing 22 and 29 Nov
Mon 22  E Dooley, S Neal, T Kelly, Andrew and Janet
Tues 23  T O’Hara, P Lawler, D Williams
Wed 24  H Simoncini, R Williamson, K Elvey
Thur 25  T Williams, A Phillips, C Wolczko
Fri 26  C Zanini, N Hassall, L Ana
Mon 29  R Howden, S Hawley, K Atkinson
Tues 30  M Mayne, K Reading
DEC
Wed 1  J Muir, C Scully
Thur 2  P Colarusso, A Barbuto, B Pietrosante, C Adamidis
Fri 3  N Theos, A Garavelos, A Di Falco, J Mantis, V Mellino, L Cattenazzi

TUCKSHOP SPECIALS
TERM FOUR
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.
ST MARY’S TENNIS CLUB
St Mary’s Tennis Club are looking for boys and girls to play Saturday morning competition commencing February, 2011. For further information please contact John Hickey 9434-3022 or Peter Bannan 0438 944 583 by November 9th.

M.A.T.E.S. 2008
Mothers And Toddlers Extended Support
An invitation to Mums, Dads, Grandparents & Caregivers with pre school children. We meet every 1st & 3rd Tuesday during school term 10.00am - 11.30am Meeting room next to the hall at St Mary’s. Next session Tuesday 7 December 2010 will be our Christmas Party. Please bring a small gift for your child with their name on and a plate to share. Contact Helen Brennan for more details 9432 1281.

FAMILY MASS
The Parish Pastoral Council warmly invites all families to attend our 10am Family Mass on Sunday 28 November and join us after Mass for some hospitality in the new Gathering Space. As well as a BBQ and morning tea there will be activities at the tennis courts for the children to enjoy whilst parents are meeting each other in this lovely setting.

ST MARY’S PARISH FETE
ST MARY’S IDOL
Have you got what it takes to become St Mary’s 2010 Idol? Register on the day from 11:00am onwards.

THE SPINNING WHEEL IS BACK
Donations of items required for the Spinning Wheel e.g. toys, bottles of wine, anything new that would be suitable to make up a hamper or a prize for the Spinning Wheel. Items may be dropped off at the school office tomorrow.

NAIL POLISH & TATTOO FETE STALL
Some grade 5 students have volunteered to run the Nail Polish & Tattoo stall at the Fete. To reduce costs donations of nail polish and or tattoos would be gratefully accepted and may be left at the office. Queries or if you would like to help paint a few nails on the day please contact Meg 5ML or Maree on 0403 169 943.

FETE CAKE STALL
It’s not too late for any people who still need wrapping code and instructions for the Cake Stall at the fete. You can call into the Hall tomorrow afternoon between 3 and 4 to pick them up, or contact Clare on 0411 180 564. Clare Hall

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS PROGRAM
LAST DAY TERM 4 2010 – Wednesday 15th December
Normal Program will be running as school finishes at 3.30pm.

ACCOUNTS:
Please ensure your account is up to date by the end of Term.

REGISTRATION FOR 2011: Registration forms will be available shortly for families to register for 2011.
LOST PROPERTY BOX: Please note that if your child has lost something to 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.

School Events:
Reminder - to all families involved in upcoming school events (camps, excursions etc.) to please cancel any bookings they may have with the Program.

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.

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 name, family name, session day & time. Thank You, SMOOSHP TEAM

COMMUNITY NEWS

Catholic Ladies' College
SCHOOL TOUR
will be held on
Wednesday –24 November, 2010
Tours leave the Foyer at 9.00 am followed by Morning Tea in the Hall at 10.15 am.

Join us as we celebrate the richness of our learning environment and the talents of our students.

Applications are welcome for students who are currently in Year 3, 4 and 5 for placement in Year 7 in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively.

Applications for Year 7 2012 close on Wednesday, 2 March, 2011

Further information is available on our website: www.clc.melb.catholic.edu.au or by telephoning the Registrar, Mrs Julie Young, at the College on 9430 2076.

BOY FREE ZONE IN2CRICKET SPIRIT DAY
Free Coaching, Free Giveaways and Free Fun, Friday 26 November 2010. To get involved visit website and register your interest @ www.cricketvictoria.com.au Entries close: Tuesday 23 November 2010 or see venues on office window or contact Paul Healy for more information.

ST MARY'S SHARKS BASKETBALL CLUB