Dear Parents and Friends

Yesterday, teachers and parents met to discuss students' needs and to set goals for students' learning over the coming Semester. To achieve positive growth and success with learning, articulating clear and achievable goals is an important strategy.

The goals or expectations that teachers have for their students and the assumptions they make about the potential of students has a tangible effect on student achievement. Research "clearly establishes that teacher expectations do play a significant role in determining how well and how much students learn" (Jerry Bamburg 1994).

Students tend to internalize the beliefs teachers and parents have about their ability. Generally, they "rise or fall to the level of expectation of their teachers and parents.... When teachers and parents believe in students, students believe in themselves. When those you respect think you can, YOU think you can".

Conversely, when students are viewed as lacking in ability or motivation and are not expected to make significant progress, they tend to adopt this perception of themselves. Teachers' expectations for students—whether high or low—can become a self-fulfilling prophecy. That is, students tend to give to teachers as much or as little as teachers expect of them. Therefore, at St. Mary's, we hold high expectations for our students.

Sometimes parents may feel that a teacher is "too strict" or a parent may feel the need to compensate for their child. Although understandable, it is important that we all agree that we should be aiming high and expecting the best for our students. This may mean allowing our child to stand on their own two feet and giving them permission to fly— even if this means mistakes may be made along the way. Positive learning and growth will take place when we as adults trust, support and give our children the space to learn and grow even if this means allowing them to "fall on their face sometimes."

Trust, believe and set them on the path to success

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who offered assistance in finding a rental property for the family who experienced a house fire over the holidays. The family has now found a property and will move in soon. The community support was much appreciated.
SACRAMENTAL EVENINGS
Parents of students in Yr 2, Yr 3 and Yr 6 who wish for their child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation this year are asked to attend a parents' Sacramental Faith Night on either Tuesday 1 March or Thursday 3 March commencing at 7.00pm in the Church. The evening will be facilitated by Fr Brendan Reed who has done extensive work in the area of Catholic Identity. These evenings are designed to assist us as adults in our Faith formation as we support our children as they prepare for the Sacraments. Children do not need to attend but are welcome if other arrangements cannot be made.

At Parent/Teacher meetings Sacramental Booklets were distributed. These booklets have been developed to support you as you help your child in their understanding of the Sacraments. If you have not received a booklet, you will need to speak to your child's teacher. All dates etc are included in these booklets.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK
In keeping with Legislation, it is now necessary for those who are assisting with school activities to hold a current Working with Children Card. These may be obtained from Australia Post. You will need to provide a passport photo and supply proof of identification. There is no cost in applying for a volunteer's card. When assisting at school, you will be required to present your card when signing in and then record the card number in the sign-in book. It is a good idea to apply for this card now so that you will be able to assist with activities involving your child at school such as attending excursions, helping in class and assisting on sports days.

NOTICES
Please return any of the following Notices if you have not already done so. I wish to remind parents that permission must always be given for students to attend any out of school activity. Unfortunately, any student who does not return Activity permission forms is unable to attend the activity.

• MEDICAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORMS
• ANAPHYLAXIS AGREEMENT FORM
• COMPUTER USE AND ONLINE AGREEMENT FORMS
• WORKING BEE COMMITMENT FORM

WILLIAM STREET CARPARK
With our new car park off William Street, traffic congestion within the school grounds has improved considerably which is good to see. Our new William Street car park was designed to provide a drop off zone in the morning and the facility to drive in and pick up after school. For this to work, the drive through area cannot be used for parking. If using this facility after school, your child must be waiting along the pick up zone, otherwise you need to park in a parking bay. Therefore, it is advisable that you arrive after 3.30pm to ensure your child has time after the bell to be at the pick up zone.

LITERACY HELPERS PROGRAM
The first Literacy Helpers program will be conducted on Monday 28 February commencing at 9.15am in the JK Centre. Another session will be held on Tuesday 2 March. All parents who are intending to assist in the classrooms during the Literacy Block are asked to attend one of these sessions.

SINCERE SYMPATHY
On behalf of all, I extend sincere sympathy to Fr. Steve and his family on the recent death of Fr. Steve's father. Last Friday, Dr. Steven Rigo was bid farewell at a beautiful Mass of thanksgiving at Holy Spirit Church in Ringwood. Please keep the Rigo family in your prayers and thoughts over the coming months.

ASH WEDNESDAY
We will gather as a community to mark the commencement of Lent with Mass on Ash Wednesday (9 March). Lent is the season in our Church where we are encouraged to spend some time examining our lives to see the
“direction” we are taking. The season of Lent is a wonderful opportunity for us to address the important elements in our lives and determine how we can improve the way in which we live. It is a time when we can enter into penance by way of giving up something we enjoy. It is also a special time when we can remember others less fortunate and give to Project Compassion or perhaps another charitable organization. It is also a very special time when we can take action to improve ourselves personally and to appreciate and give thanks for all that has been given to each of us.

God Our Father
As I enter this season of Lent
Help me to take some time to be still - to be truly present to your will
so that I can recognize your plan for me as I live my life given in your Name.
I make this prayer through Christ Our Lord.
Amen

WORKING BEE
Our first Working Bee for the year was held last Saturday 19 February where Yr 1 families were invited to attend. It was a huge success and has set a very positive benchmark for the rest of the year. Although I was at the Working Bee, I missed seeing many of you. Thank you to all those families who attended and for all the work you completed. We are most fortunate in having so many parents who are willing to assist at Working Bees and for a number of other people who put in extra days other than Working Bees to complete tasks. I thank all of you and applaud you for your willingness to give your time to our community.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Antony, Vicki and Lucas (Yr1R) Coppolino who welcomed baby Isabel into their family on the weekend. We wish you much happiness at this very special time.

SCHOOL SPORT
Our Annual School Sports will be held on Tuesday 15 March at Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium in Epping. All families are invited to attend this event. Classes will be as normal in the morning with the Students being bussed to the Stadium in the afternoon. Yr 3-6 students will commence activities at 1.30pm and Prep - Yr 2 students’ activities will commence at 3.15pm. The Sports will conclude at approximately 5.45pm. Parents will be required to collect students at the conclusion of the event.

SCHOOL CLOSURE
The school will be closed on Friday 18 March when Staff will participate in a Professional Development Day with the focus being on Contemporary Learning. A component of this day will be on utilizing contemporary learning spaces. Teachers will be visiting other schools on this day.

PARISH AGM
The AGM will be held in the Church at 3.00pm this Sunday 27 February. After the 5.00pm Mass, there will be a Parish Picnic. All are invited to attend.

COMING EVENTS
February
24 Prep/Buddy Welcome Sausage Sizzle 5.30pm
   Advisory Board Meeting 7.00pm
27 Parish AGM
28 Yr 4 Swimming commences
   Preps Fulltime
   Literacy Helpers Program 9.15am
March
1 Literacy Helpers Program 9.15am
   Parent Sacramental Evening 7.00pm
3 Parent Sacramental Evening 7.00pm
4 Young Leaders’ Day
8 AGM MAD Team
9 Ash Wednesday Mass 9.15am
15 School Sports
18 School Closure
   Twilight Working Bee
19 Working Bee - Preps
THANKYOU
Sincere thanks to Samantha Theilig (Alessia 5H) for the generous donation to our school through her company Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories. This support of our school is very much appreciated.

Regards

Helen

**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. Candela is also available on our web page.

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**
EMA Forms are now available from the school office and parents eligible to claim the allowance are requested to fill in and return the form by **Monday 28 February 2011**. Enclosed with the Candela are EMA conditions and eligibility details for your information.

**CAN YOU HELP WITH TRANSPORT?**
One of our senior students requires transport home from school each day to Plenty Road Bundoora. If you are able to assist kindly contact the school office.

**CDF STUDENT BANKING**
Welcome to another year of student school banking. We encourage you to open an account for your child to teach your child about saving. CDF banking day at our school is Tuesday and commenced last **Tuesday 22 February**. A CDF Application form for you to open a new account may be obtained from the school office.

**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**
Congratulations to the worthy recipients of this award to be presented at Assembly.
Year 6C  Jacob Vidajic, Steven Huang
Year 6D  Will Crompton, James Whitfield
Year 6 G  Daniel Marasco, Lachlan Morris
Year 6MS  Ryan Maerz, Jesse-Leigh Boskovski
Year 5B  Lachlan Brady, Charlotte Fell
Year 5H  Brandon Tarulli, Louisa Cowan
Year 5S  James Redgrave, Katelin Jernejcic
Year 4 C  Olivia Cowan, Noah Thorley
Year 4GM  Grace Phillips, Kristian Ambrose
Year 4PM  Stephanie Ciavarella, Rory Hollowood
Year 3 LR  Larissa Ambrose, Daniel Drzewucki
Year 3 R  Harrison Fell, Olivia Wilson
Year 3 WR  Chantelle Dokos, Charbel Khoury
Year 2C  Daniel Surma, Danielle Di Falco
Year 2M  Olivia Karaula, Jaydon Calleja
Year 2 WS  Jordan Mira, Anthony Nata
Year 1 C  Luke Khoury, Jessica Dragicevic
Year 1 ML  Zachary Watson, Madeline Warren
Year 1 R  Emmerson Williams, Heath Stewart
Prep S  Holly Luppino, Wesley Mills
Prep B  Christian Panucci, Jaslyn Clayton
Prep W  Fletcher Gauci, Sophie Crompton-Cook

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**
Congratulations to the following children who will celebrate their birthday over the next two weeks: Ashleigh Hall, Curtis Howden-Crhak, Jack Thompson, Luke Atkinson, Rory Hollowood, Christian Panucci, Dempsey Mills, Oscar Gavillucci, Natarsha Pickett, Olivia Arzenti, Alexis Katsaros, Jacqueline Cowley, Amy Grouios, Keanu Ana, Jessica Dragicevic, Alexander Miller, Jacinta Borg, Hugh Collis, Kate Goulding, Bridget Wood
Contemporary News!

Welcome to our new Contemporary Snippet! This will be a regular spot which will keep parents informed on what's happening at St. Mary's in different curriculum areas and in our classrooms! Each fortnight in the Candela there will be informative material about current and new initiatives, programs or special projects taking place in the school. There will also be a showcase of student learning straight from the classroom to you!

The whole school has been working on the “Start Up" program which allows students to get to know each other, the teachers and establish class routines! This week the catch phrase is Goal Setting as we aim to achieve the best we can in academic, social and personal goals. The conversation at Parent Teacher Interviews can be a platform for parents and teachers to encourage and support children’s learning this semester.

This term all classes will be carefully looking through the Internet Agreements and discussing how to be Cyber Smart, global citizens. Thank you to all those families who have already returned their signed agreements. Please be vigilant in returning these forms as using the internet is an integral part of our learning. The students use technology as a tool for learning, creating and socialising and they need to be taught explicit strategies in coping with this vast tool. A great site for parents to look at is http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/.

More information about myclasses in the next Candela!

“Tell me and I’ll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand.” Chinese proverb

Gabee Leone Contemporary Learning Leader

PERSONALITY PORTRAITS

6MS students introduced themselves with a Personality Portrait. This activity required students to complete a half portrait accompanied with a personality poem to share a little bit about themselves.

It is obvious we have a group of very creative thinkers. What a great way to get to know each other!

Thomas who is a funny, interesting, tasteful and a friendly guy. Thomas who loves his friends, Art, Xbox and Warhammer.

Thomas who fears clowns, kidnappers and terrorists.

Thomas who gives laughter, joy, donations and money. Thomas who believes in God and Karma; what goes around comes around.  Thomas

YEAR ONE AND YEAR TWO PARENT LITERACY INFORMATION SESSION

A Literacy information session will be held for Year One and Year Two parents on Monday 28th February and Tuesday 1st March in the James Kierce Centre from 9:15-10:00am. All parents planning to be involved in the classrooms during the daily 9:00-11:00am literacy block are expected to attend one of these sessions.

Please ensure that you also having a working with children check if you would like to help in classrooms, forms available from the post office.

I look forward to working in partnership with you all. Elizabeth Whiting P-2 Literacy Coordinator

SPONSORSHIP

This week's Candela has been sponsored by:

HELEN O'GRADY

DRAMA ACADEMY

Sponsorship is invited from families for $30 and businesses for $45 to help cover costs.

SPORTS NEWS

WATSONIA DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to our Year 3 - 6 students who represented St Mary's at our Swimming Carnival at Doncaster Aquarina on Monday. All students tried their best and many will now swim at the next level (now known as Division Finals) on 9 March at Northcote Swimming Pool. Our school won the carnival overall. Well done and thanks to our Swimming Captains Lachlan Morris, Jesse-Lee Boskovski and Vice Captains Liam Burgess and Meg Goulding. Their reports along with the results are below. RESULTS: Freestyle - Under 12/13 Boys A - Lincoln Zhang 2nd, B - Lachlan Morris 1st, Girls A - Greta Miller 3rd, B - Jesse-Lee Boskovski 1st, Under 11
SWIMMING REPORT
On Monday 21 February St. Mary's participated in the Watsonia District Swimming Carnival. It was a fantastic day everybody was very supportive and showed great sportsmanship. There were lots of swimmers participating on the day. St. Mary's was successful at the end of the day. Thank you to all the swimmers for a great day, and congratulations to all the swimmers that made it into zone!!!

Monday was a fantastic day. All the swimmers should be congratulated for their efforts. Well done to all the participants that are going on to the next level, also well done to the people who tried their hardest. At the end of the day St. Mary's won over all with 164 points. Well done everyone on a Fantastic day.

Your swimming Captains Jesse - Leigh Boskovski and Lachlan Morris

BASKETBALL REPORT
On 18 February our interschool basketball teams played. Both boys and girls had great wins, the boys won 70-8 and the girls won 56-4. We played against Bundoora primary school. They were good sports even after we beat them. Everybody on both our boy and girl teams at least scored one goal each. Thomas Williamson

ROUNDERS
Rounders Report - Friday 18 February
For the first week of Inter School Sports, our St Mary’s team for Rounders played Bundoora Primary School. Unfortunately we lost, but we all had heaps of fun. We all aim to do better in our next game, but no matter what, we’ll try our best and we all will work as a team.

By Jasmine Awad and Naomi Whimpey

BAT TENNIS
Bat Tennis Report - Friday 18 February
On Friday 18 February 2011, some year 6 boys and girls participated in bat tennis at Bundoora Primary School. We had a fun and exhausting time. The girls won, but unfortunately the boys lost. We lost against Bundoora, but still had an exciting and fantastic day!

By Steven Huang and Bridgit Callipari

CRICKET REPORT
On Friday February 18 the Year Six Cricket Team travelled to Bundoora Primary school for their first interschool cricket match. Both teams were eager to play after the disappointment of the previous week's washout. Play soon got underway with St Mary’s electing to bat and Bundoora taking to the field. Lachie Dawber-Grant and Curtis Taplin opened the batting and scored strongly against the opening attack. When both Lachie and Curtis were bowled out making 3 and 5 runs respectively, Billy Clayton and Dempsey Mills came to the crease. Billy (14 runs) and Dempsey (20 runs) worked well to extend the run total and after the completion of eleven overs, St Mary's had scored 2 for 65. The Bundoora openers faced the pace and precision
of Lachlan Smart and Will McEntee. The strong bowling and reliable catching of the St Mary’s team resulted in Bundoora finishing with a final score of 5 for 41. Congratulations to Kuvindu Liyanage who took two fine wickets and Lachlan Smart, Will McEntee and Arth Mishra who each took one wicket. The match was played in a wonderful spirit and the St Mary’s team was captained very well by Bailey Thompson to their well-deserved victory.

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION

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.

PARISH NEWS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
Married couples, make 2011 the year that you prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend this year. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other.

Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but you don’t need to be Catholic to attend. The next weekends will be held on 8-10 April, 3-5 June and 19-21 August. 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

Working Bee
Saturday 19 February
BIG THANKS

Many hands make light work! Thank you to everyone who helped on Saturday the 19th February. It was great to see over 50 adults turn up with kids and an eagerness to work! A huge amount of work was achieved and our grounds and surrounds are something to be proud of. Some highlights were: the painting and relocation of the planter boxes (we think the boxes had more paint on them than the kids?), the safety line painting and the massive weeding campaign (it was more like a deforestation exercise) that took place in the William Street car park. A delicious lunch and morning tea was made possible by some very tasty donations. We are very lucky to have David Elliot “captaining” the shed. David’s historical perspective has made the MaD transition much easier. Phill & Mathew Georgiou; David Elliot; Angelo & Adrian Salvatore; Angelo & Dante Torres; Fiona & Georgia Bezkorowajnij; Gayna, David, India & Talea Page; Nick & Grace Papagianis; Dave & Taj De Run; John, Frances, Brigid, Abbey & Julienne Wood; Steve Hall; Bernie and Megan Girolami; Paul Howard, Ben & Spencer Waymire; Frank & Chloe Carnovale; Jonathon & Bronwyn & Mathew Newton Howes: Justine & Sascha; Mikaila & Claudia Piscitelli; Reno, Grace & Adrian Reginato; Steve & Sally Plunkett, Gavin & Christian & Jordyn Steward; Colin & Thomas Brooks; Peter McKenna; Trish Roseman & Alexandra & Oscar Roseman; Adrian & Sophie Compton-Cook; George Rizzi; Tom & Amy Grouios; Siewert & Hanna Wiid; Therese, Connor & Molly Kissane; Maria, Riley & Emily Gamble; Bradley & Caitlyn & Kiara You, Brian & Jasmine Makiussi, Steve & Rory Hollowood, Hilda & Olivia Cowan; Lucia, Josh, Julian & Alessia Minuzzo; Adrian, Isabella & Giulia Ferronato. Phillip, Meg, Jack & Kate Goulding & Maree Brick; Danny Verbeeten. Thanks also to all those families who donated food for lunch and morning tea: Luppino, Reginato, Hall, Marinucci, Karaula, Cimino, Lewis, Jernejcic, Lombardo, Roseman. Every attendee really
appreciated the help of Peter McKenna; Judy & Laura Muir; and Veronica Colum who coordinated a tasty BBQ lunch for the hungry! If there are any families' names who we have inadvertently missed from this list, we are very sorry - please ensure your name is recorded on the attendance sheet that is always at the shed. The whole day was really enjoyable and gave all who attended a great sense of community. So don’t miss out on that great feeling you get when you are involved and come to the next working bee. It is a Twilight Event and is just under one month away on the 18th March from 5pm for 2 & 1/2 half hours of work followed by a meal and drinks at the presbytery bbq area. We hope to get 12 large planter boxes positioned and full of mulch and dirt ready for some creative plantings by the students as well as the usual mowing and tidying Thanks again to all - MaD Committee.

ST MARY’S LITTLE ATHLETICS-TRIVIA NIGHT
St Mary’s Little Athletics Trivia Night will be held this Saturday 26 February at 7:00pm at Willinda Park. $10.00 per player, great prizes and lots of fun guaranteed. Please contact Gabrielle on 9435 9051 or just come along on the night.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS PROGRAM
REGISTRATIONS: Please ensure that you register prior to requiring care. Registration Forms are available at the Program and must be completed in full and returned to Tanya or Barbara with a $25 registration fee.

COMMUNITY NEWS

OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE HEIDELBERG
Applications for enrolments for Year 7 2012 close on Wednesday 2 March 2011. Places for 2012 will be offered early in Term 2 2011 after consultation with neighbouring Colleges. School tours are being held throughout the year on normal school days. We also offer Twilight School Tours. The tours last for 1.5 hours. Bookings must be made by telephoning the College Reception on 9459 2511. Applications for enrolment in Year 7 2013, Year 7 2014 and Year 7 2015 are now being taken. For further information contact the College on 9459 2511. Office hours 8am-5pm Mon - Fri

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 1 March 2011. Activities for children Morning tea for parents & carers. Contact Helen Brennan for more details 94321281.

DIAMOND VALLEY UNITED JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB
Come and join a well established family orientated club with over 80 years of history. Teams for boys and girls. First time players welcome. Enquiries please contact Sam Papadakis 0418 382 535.
FREE TO GOOD HOME
Due to unforeseen circumstances we have to place our family dogs with a loving family. One is a Jack Russell Male 2 years old desexed, very, very cute with beautiful markings and colour. The other is a Maltese Shihtzu Female 1 year old, white and very fluffy. Both have playful and loving natures. They are best friends but will separate. Please call Leanne on 0413996864 to discuss.

ATTENTION: FAMILIES OF CHILDREN IN YEAR SIX
Applications for enrolment at Loyola College, Watsonia in Year 7, 2012 close Wednesday 2 March, 2011. This also applies to families who already have children at Loyola. Application forms can be accessed via our website: www.loyola.vic.edu.au

LOYOLA PARENT EDUCATION SEMINARY PROGRAM
A Parent Education Seminar Program is being offered to the parent communities of Loyola College over the coming year.

Term 1 Wed 2 March - Learning about the Catholic Faith - 7:30pm
Term 2 Thursday 19 May - Numeracy & Your Child - 7:30pm
Thursday 23 June - Parenting & Adolescence - 7:30pm
Term 3 Monday 29 August - Cyberspace, Social Networking & Your Child - 7:30pm

BANYULE CITY COUNCIL
Banyule City Council requires School Crossing Supervisors Relief Positions. Uniform and training provided. Contact Garry York 9490 4222 www.banyule.vic.gov.au or email employment@bankyule.vic.gov.au

CAN YOU HELP?
A young family from Sri Lanka has recently moved into our parish. Their non English speaking mother is staying with them for 6 months. If any Sri Lankan or Australian families are in a position to make contact please ring Bernadette on 9435 5095. Thankyou.

PARENT SEMINAR SERIES 2011
A PROGRAM FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS
This seminar will provide a better understanding of the needs of boys so you can adapt your parenting. You will get essential information and lots of strategies and some reassurance to help you raise your mighty boys into mighty fine men.

WORKSHOPS
1. Raising Mighty Boys - Presenter: Michael Grose
2. Thriving - a new approach to positive parenting - Presenter: Michael Grose
3. Anxiety & Depression - Presenter: Murray Evely
4. Valuing Girls - Presenter: Andrew Fuller

Registration/further information contact Co-ordinator - Shirley O’Sullivan 9464 5225 or Email shirley@stclaresthomastown.catholic.edu.au
All seminars cost $10 per person.

SPONSORSHIP
HELEN O’GRADY DRAMA ACADEMY
Our internationally acclaimed programme includes speech, movement, creative drama, scripts and productions. Your child’s growth in confidence, self esteem and communication skills will delight you! To enrol phone Principal Elisa Smith on 9439 4999

LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
MONDAY 14 MARCH 2011
NO SCHOOL