FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of the 2013 school year and an extra special welcome to all of our new students and their families. Our new students are: Caleb Hicks, Beau Johnson, Pearl Jupp, Nathaniel Nutter, Casey Payne, Bridie Routledge, Ashlee Suckling, Digby Williams (all in Kindy), Azania Nikora (Year 1) and we welcome back Lawrie Toby (Pre-Primary).

We also welcome into our school Miss Claire Arnold (Kindy/Pre-Primary Teacher) and Mr Brett Love (Year 5/6 Teacher) and welcome back Mrs Corinna Mulgrew.

As we begin a new year it would seem like an apt time to establish or re-establish a successful morning routine. The vast majority of children thrive on a well-planned and set period before they arrive at school. A good healthy breakfast, uniform organised the night before, morning tea and lunch prepared and arrival at school at least 10 minutes (preferably) prior to the bell ringing to start the school day. If children arrive at school flustered and rushed teachers can often ‘lose’ the next thirty minutes while that child settles back into the class routine. Please help your child adhere to a good schedule that will assist their academic output.

Welcoming Mass: This Thursday, 7 February, we will be starting the school day off with a Mass. Mass begins at 9.00am and we would love to see as many parents as possible join us, so why not stick around when you drop your children off and join in with us for this special event.

Ash Wednesday is next Wednesday 13 February mass will commence at 9.00am.

Parent/Teacher Meetings: As you would be aware, from last year’s newsletters, we have moved our School Board and P&F Annual General Meeting to Wednesday February 20. The AGM is to coincide with Parent/Teacher meetings and then conclude with supper.

There is a vacancy on the School Board for the 2013 school year we require nominations from interested parents to fill this position. If you are interested please fill out the cut off slip in the newsletter and return it to the school office by Wednesday 13 February. School Board meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6.00pm. For further information please contact me at school.

The format for the evening will be:
- 5.30pm Kindy/Pre-Primary and Year 3/4 class meetings
- 5.45pm AGM (undercover area)
- 6.15pm Year 1/2 and Year 5/6 class meetings
- 6.30pm Roast Beef and Gravy rolls for dinner

At least one parent/guardian is expected to attend their child/ren’s classroom meeting, but why not make it a family event and all come along, have dinner and enjoy the get together as a school community.

Leadership Day: Tomorrow, Wednesday February 6 the Year 5/6 class will be attending a Leadership Day in Geraldton. All activities are designed to promote the development of personal and interpersonal skills and to increase mutual support within the group. Students participate in and enjoy a range of educational activities that will contribute to the development of their knowledge, self-esteem, motivation, skill level, fitness, initiative and working as a team. I am sure that the students will have a fantastic and enjoyable day.

5th February, 2013

VITAL INFORMATION

St Mary’s School Newsletter

PO Box 138
Northampton 6533
Ph.: 08 99341112
Fax 0899341115
Email: admin@smsn.wa.edu.au
Website: www.smsn.wa.edu.au

VISION STATEMENT

St Mary’s School provides an education that endeavours to equip each child with the Christian values and life skills necessary to meet the challenges of a changing world.

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5th February, 2013
Swimming Lessons: Swimming lessons for children in Pre-Primary to Year Six start this Friday, 8 February. The children will be leaving by bus at 9.00am sharp and be returning to school at approximately 12.45pm. Permission slip regarding transportation by bus and the form outlining your child’s swimming stage were set out yesterday if you have not completed and returned this form please do so by tomorrow morning. Please see page two of newsletter outlining what your child needs to bring for these lessons. Lessons will run for the next five weeks. St. Mary’s School Faction Carnival will take place the week after swimming lessons on Thursday 14 March. More details to follow in the next newsletter.

P&F News: The first meeting for 2013 will take place on Monday 11 February at 3.20pm in the staffroom. At this meeting we will be establishing the class committees again for 2013. We will also be looking at conducting a social event for this year so please come along with any ideas. New members are most welcome. Come along have a coffee or a tea and enjoy the never ending supply of Tim Tams that will be on offer. The P&F is a fantastic way to be involved in assisting the school in not only fundraising avenues but also ensuring we continue enhancing the community building and social experiences of our school community.

Footy Tipping: It is hard to believe that it’s that time of the year again. Footy tipping season! Booklets will be sent home at the beginning of Week 3. The money raised from this year’s tipping will be divided evenly between next year’s Year 5/6 camp and the purchasing of new materials for the Kindy/Pre-Primary outdoor area. We require your help once again to ensure we have another successful year. The cost of a booklet this year is again $50.00. Please check page three for prize details. If each family could sell three books it would make for a very successful fundraising effort.

2013 Term Dates:
Term 1 - Monday 4 February – Friday 19 April (Please be aware Easter period falls during Term 1)
Term 2 - Monday 6 May - Friday 5 July
Term 3 - Monday 22 July – Friday 27 September
Term 4 - Monday 14 October - Thursday 12 December (students)

St Mary’s School 2013 Professional Development (Pupil Free Days):
Friday 15 March - Religious Education Staff Development Day
Monday 6 May - Insight SRC / Bluearth
Friday 31 May – Evangelisation Plan Review
Monday 22 July - Grammar & Punctuation / National Curriculum
Monday 2 September – Catholic Day
Monday 14 October - Quality Catholic Schooling

Yours sincerely

Justin Tuohy
PRINCIPAL

School Fees and Health Care Card Discounts
2013 School Fees will be issued in Week 3, parents have the option of paying a one off yearly payment or by term amounts. If families have a health care card please present it to the office so we can give you a discount on your school fees. Existing card holders need to bring your new cards in after expiry dates so we can update our records.

Gala Day - Palm Sunday 24th March 2013

Friends of St Francis Xavier and Past Pupils Committee are planning a Gala Day before the closure of the Cathedral after Easter. It will be a family day with lots of food, fun and entertainment. Please let all your friends and family know to keep this date free. As more details come to hand we will keep you updated. We need this to be a success as the cost of the renovations is to be covered by our fundraising efforts, donations and hopefully Government grants.

Registering as a Friend or Past Pupil
If you have not already registered as a friend or past pupil, please do so by going to www.sfxcathedralproject.com.au click on our tab and fill in the form. You will then be sent regular updates on all events to do with the Cathedral renovations.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SUPER 8’S SEASON
The new Super 8’s season will commence on Saturday 1st June at 10.00am at the Utakarra Softball Oval. This year it will cost $50 to play in the Super 8’s competition. Please be mindful that the competition is for children that are 6 turning 7 and 7 turning 8 in 2013. If anyone has any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Paul Pirrottina, Midwest, Gascoyne & Murchison Regional Football Development Manager
P.O Box 135, Geraldton WA 6531. Phone: (w) 08 99562183, (mob) 0429914220, (fax) 08 99562199
email: ppirrottina@wafc.com.au

Remember to drink two litres of water a day.
AGM Nomination Forms
Please find below, nomination forms for the positions available on the Board for 2013. If you are interested please complete the form and return it to the school office by Wednesday 13\textsuperscript{th} February 2013.

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<tr>
<th>ELECTIONS – NOMINATIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>St Mary’s Catholic School Board</td>
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<td>Annual School Community Meeting</td>
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<td>20 February 2013 at 5.45pm</td>
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1 position available.

PERSON TO BE NOMINATED:

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NOMINATED BY:

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ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION:
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- **FEB 10**: 9.00am Opening School Mass
- **FEB 15**: 9.00am End of Term Mass
- **MAR 6**: 6.00pm Board & P&F AGM Parent/Teacher Meetings
- **MAR 21**: 6.00pm Board & P&F AGM Parent/Teacher Meetings
- **MAR 30**: 9.00am Holy Thursday Mass & 1st Reconciliation Yr 3
- **APR 3**: Good Friday Public Holiday
- **APR 19**: 9.00am End of Term Mass
- **MAR 5**: Labour Day Public Holiday
- **MAR 11**: Blue earth
- **MAR 15**: 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting
- **MAR 18**: 6.00pm Board & P&F AGM Parent/Teacher Meetings
- **MAR 21**: 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting
- **MAR 30**: Blue earth
- **APR 1**: EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- **MAR 6**: 6.00pm Board & P&F AGM Parent/Teacher Meetings
- **MAR 10**: Blue earth
- **MAR 15**: 6.00pm Board & P&F AGM Parent/Teacher Meetings
- **APR 1**: EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- **APR 5**: Blue earth
- **APR 10**: Blue earth
- **APR 15**: Blue earth