Dear Parents and Carers,

Another school year comes to a close this Thursday and another Year 6 class are moving onto a new school journey. What a fantastic year at St Mary’s! We are very blessed to have such a wonderful school community.

Last night’s Award Evening was a lovely conclusion to our school year. Congratulations to all our wonderful students on their amazing efforts and achievements throughout the school year.

Thank you to the wonderful staff of St Mary’s – Mrs Richards, Mrs Murray, Miss Collins, Mrs Shore, Mrs Brown, Miss Buckmaster, Ms Toohey, Ms T Holland, Ms S Holland, Mrs Ambrose & Mrs Dobbie who give countless hours over and above what is expected of them. Best wishes to Mrs Brown and Mrs Murray next year.

Thank you to each of the families and students for all you have contributed this year. Wishing you all a holy and safe Christmas, and a fantastic holiday. We look forward to working with you and your child/ren again in 2018.

Mrs Christine Baron
Principal

MAY OUR MOTHER, MARY, TOOK CARE OF US

Selwyn St
Batlow NSW 2730

ABN
19 068 232 037

Phone
6949 1270

Email
office.stmarysbatlow@cg.catholic.edu.au

Website:
www.stmarysbatlow.nsw.edu.au

PRINCIPAL
Mrs Christine Baron

REC
Mrs Jannine Richards

Student Term Dates 2018
Term 1: Tues 30th Jan - Fri 13th April
Good Friday - 30th March, Easter Sunday 1st April, Easter Monday - 2nd April

Term 2: Tues 1st May - Fri 6th July

Term 3: Tues 24th July - Fri 28th Sept

YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS

Last Friday, a beautiful farewell Mass was held for our wonderful Year 6 leaders and their families followed by morning tea and a farewell assembly.

A huge thank you to Mrs Richards for all her hard work in preparing the beautiful Mass and for the special photo powerpoint.

The passing on of the Leadership candle from Year 6 to Year 5 was a special part of the ceremony with Year 5 students accepting the challenge to carry on the leadership role in 2017.

May Year 6 treasure their time at St Mary’s as they move onto new adventures next year.

A big thank you to Mrs Ambrose for making and decorating the amazing Graduation Cake.

DONATIONS TO ST VINNIES

All families are asked to donate a toy, book, money, non perishable food or a voucher to the annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. The donations may be brought to school and will then be passed on to a Tumut St Vincent de Paul Rep. These will be distributed to local needy families.

Thank you for helping others.

Thank You Morning Tea
For anyone who has helped out St Mary’s School community this year please join us for morning tea tomorrow at 10.30am

Come Lord Jesus, Come and be born in our hearts.
What a great night last night and a fitting end to a busy school year!

Congratulations to all our students on a wonderful year of work and great achievements.

Many thanks to our departing families Cooper-Wilson, Giblin-Crain & Collins families for all your support and contribution to our school community over the years and for your faith in St Mary’s.

Congratulations to all our students who received Certificates of Excellence for areas they have achieved well in during this year.

Congratulations to students who were awarded the following Perpetual Trophies……….

**Academic Achievement Award**—Meika Collins

**School and Community Spirit Award**—Gracie Cooper-Wilson

**Creative Arts Award**—Caitlin Giblin-Crane

**John Holland Memorial Sport Award**—William Smith & Daniel Korn

**Curriculum Award (Mathematics)** Jiemin Shang

**Ian Giles Memorial Award (Literacy)** Ellie Wolfe and Lucy Pearce

**Premiers Reading Challenge**
THANK YOU MR SHAW!

A huge thank you is extended to Worrick, Kristy and Anthony Shaw who so generously volunteer their time to transport our students to the pool and back for swimming lessons FREE OF CHARGE.

Mr Shaw volunteered at the start of the year when our Year 2/3/4/5/6 students undertook swimming lessons and again for the two weeks for our Year K/1s.

Thank you—your efforts are most appreciated each year!

We are fortunate to have such a generous family in our community.

SCHOOL FEES
COULD PARENTS WHO ARE NOT PAYING BY DIRECT DEPOSIT PLEASE FINALISE ANY OUTSTANDING SCHOOL FEES BEFORE THE END OF TERM.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
Christmas Eve - Batlow - 6pm, Tumut - 7:00pm
Adelong - 10:00am
Christmas Day - Tumut - 10:00am, Adelong - 9:00am
Reconciliation: Tumut Saturday 6:00pm

Farewell Mrs Murray and Mrs Brown

Mrs Murray has been with the St Mary’s staff for the last 7 years and has taken on a variety of roles during that time such as Learning Support Teacher, Technology Teacher, Librarian, Numeracy Intervention Teacher, REC, Classroom Teacher, RFF teacher, Aboriginal Education Contact Teacher & LNAP Teacher.

Mrs Murray is known for amazing ability to create outstanding displays, her creativity skills, displaying outstanding leadership skills and driving change in teaching. She is passionate about every position she undertakes and does so with complete dedication and professionalism. She will be very much missed at St Mary’s but we thank her for all she has done for St Mary’s and wish her all the best for the future.

We also thank Mrs Brown for coming back to work with us in Terms 3 & 4. It has been wonderful to have Mrs Brown back on staff. We wish Mr and Mrs Brown all the very best for baby number two and look forward to hearing the exciting news in early 2018.

Thank you Kirsty Willems, Carol Flannagan, Jenny & Corinne Jackson for selling tickets at the RSL Club and Debbie Matthews, Clare Pearce, Cindy Skein, Andrew Hockey, Jean & Kerry Skein for selling at IGA on Thursday.

STAFFING NEW 2018

The following staff have been appointed to the positions below for 2018 school year.

Year K/1 - Ms Sarah Collins
Year 2/3 - Miss Amy Buckmaster
Year 4/5/6 - Mrs Jannine Richards

Meeting Student Need Team (including LNAP & CST)
-Mrs Joanne Shore and Mrs Christine Baron
REC - Mrs Jannine Richards
AEW - Ms Sarah Holland and Ms Tracee Holland
CSA - Mrs Kate Dobbie and Mrs Kerrie Ambrose
Office Administration - Mrs Tricia Toohey and Ms Tracee Holland

Miss Amy Buckmaster comes to the St Mary’s Team with a variety of teaching experiences including teaching overseas and at McAuley Catholic Central School in the past. We welcome Amy officially to St Mary’s as a classroom teacher.

Mrs Joanne Shore will take on the LNAP position at St Mary’s next year. Mrs Shore’s vast teaching experience will be a valuable asset in developing the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.

Mrs Shore will be supporting teachers in the classroom along with Mrs Baron, in continuing to develop the Inquiry Pedagogy model that has been adopted by all staff this year.

All staff are looking forward to another wonderful year of teaching and learning at St Mary’s.

Happy birthday wishes go to

Charlie who turns 8 on December 29th, Jessica who turns 11 on December 25th, Isabelle who turns 8 on January 9th, Dylan who turns 7 on January 4th, Maverick who turns 6 on January 23rd and Adelaide who turns 12 on January 30th.

Thank you WOOG to sell tickets at the RSL Club and Debbie Matthews, Clare Pearce, Cindy Skein, Andrew Hockey, Jean & Kerry Skein for selling at IGA on Thursday
CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS FOR 2018
All students from Years 2-6 are asked to have the following items for personal/classroom use next year please.

- lead pencils x 6
- coloured pencils
- Ruler (wooden)
- sharpener
- erasers x 2
- textas/highlighters/gel pens (optional)
- Glue sticks x 4 (large)
- Scissors for Year 4/5 & 6 students ONLY
- A small-medium pencil case (that can fit in the desk)
- Thumb drive/USB (4/5/6 ONLY)
- earphones (for use with the iPads)
- A painting smock
- Library bag
- Box of tissues x 4

Could all items please be labelled with your child’s name. If there are any questions about the above items please contact your child’s class teacher.
Thank you!

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2018
(Yes already!!!)
Years 2-6 Swimming program - Wednesday 31st January to Wednesday 7th February (excluding Friday 2nd February)
2018 Swimming Carnival - Friday 9th February (Batlow Pool)
2018 Opening School Mass - Thursday 22nd February
School Photos - Tuesday October 23rd

2017 Awards Night
Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

2018 SCHOOL TERM DATES
Staff PD Day - Monday 29th January
Years 1-6 - Tuesday 30th January
Kindergarten - Wednesday 31st January
(Kindergarten will have full days on Wednesday 31st, Thursday 1st February and Friday 2nd February. From Week 2 onwards Kindergarten will have full days except for every Wednesday through February)
Term One - Tuesday 30th January - Friday 13th April
Good Friday - Friday 30th March
Easter Sunday - Sunday 1st April
Easter Monday - Monday 2nd April
Term Two - Monday 30th April - Friday 6th July
Staff PD Day will be held on Wednesday 9th May (ie Pupil Free Day)
Term Three - Monday 23rd July - Friday 28th Sept
Term Four - Monday 15th October - Fri 21st Dec