Dear Parents,

What an evening! The Christmas Fair and Carols was a fantastic night and it was so wonderful to see so many people come along! We were so blessed with the weather too! As a community, we are very appreciative to the band of enthusiastic parents, led by three wonderful ladies: Belinda Giblett, Shelley Holt and Michelle Jones who made the time and effort to get it all organised and ensured it was such a cracking success! A big thank you to: Jane Ward, Meagan and Adam McSween, Emma and Scott Stafford, Viv Miller, Karla Flynn, Ronnie Pritchard, Elise Schroeter, Rebecca Dunn, Bec and Aaron Murray, Sharon Flint, Maria Etheredge, Connie Mercuri, Maree Di Lullo, Jackie and Dale Farrugia, Narelle Kearton, Sindy Vitale, Amanda Pearse, Bec Cafarella, Jenny Hendrie, Kerrie Allen, Hayley and Paul Simpson, Verity Robinson, Letitia Ries, Liz Rhodes, Narelle Kearton, Daniel Holt, Paul Dorian, Andrew Sands and Kim Maree Sunderland. Also, thank you to the many people who donated cakes and slices and a special thank you to the Clark family for donating the jumping castle and to the Warrandyte IGA for donating the meat for the BBQ. We also say a big thank you to the children who led the singing and to the musicians, choir and the soloists, Maddison Trimboli and Tess F and Keisha S, and our staff for their preparation. A wonderful team effort for a great community evening!

Tomorrow we are having a transition time for 2016. Our teachers for our classes next year are as follows:

Prep: Miss Davina Bernau and Miss Tara Riddiford
1/2: Mrs Veronica Fraraccio, Mrs Melissa Roberts, Mrs Monique Hales, Mrs Nikki Passingham/Mrs Sharon Downey
3/4: Mrs Brigitte Cooke, Mr John Nelsson, Mrs Jenny Foley (taking over 3/4M), Mrs Mary Rose (taking over 3/4T)
5/6: Mrs Jodie Fotopoulos, Mr Peter Bekkers, Mr Luke Bateman, Miss Sonya Lewis

Although we have been working on transition for most of the term, as with any change there can always be a little anxiety for some children. As adults, we know that such initial anxiety will pass and everything will settle to be comfortable again, so maintaining a positive attitude is important for the wellbeing of the children.

Congratulations to our Students of the Week:

PB: Katie C PF: Amelia H-S
1/2F: Raya S 1/2U: Lachlan H 1/2H: Isaias P 1/2R: Lachlan C
5/6L: Nicholas C 5/6F: James M 5/6S: Stacey M

With my prayers and best wishes for the coming week,
Mrs Lynne O’Meara Principal
Lord, help us to get ready, to prepare ourselves to welcome You into our hearts and to live as Your people always, Amen.

| Week Ten | Monday, 7th December | 3.30pm | • Staff Meeting  
|          | Tuesday 8th December | 11.40am | • Yr. 7 Orientation  
|          | Thursday 10th December |   | • School Transition Day Gr. 1-6  
|          | Friday, 11th December |   | • Gr 5/6 Parent Afternoon Tea  
|          |                       |   | • Whole School Fun Day  
|          |                       |   | • School Assembly  

| Week Eleven | Monday, 14th December | 3.30pm | • Luna Park Gr 6 Students  
|             | Tuesday 15th December | 9.15am | • Staff Meeting  
|             | Thursday 17th December | 9.00am | • Whole School Mass for end of year.  
|             |                        | 3.15pm | • Graduation Assembly  
|             |                        | 5.00pm | • End of School Year for all students  
|             |                        |   | • Gr. 6 Graduation Mass  

Just a reminder...
Arrangements for Baptisms in 2016  Preparation sessions will continue as in previous years, but bookings to attend will be made with me at the weekend Masses. Of the 300+ baptisms I have presided over in these parishes, where the parents have promised God that they would bring them up in the practice of the faith, less than ten have kept that promise. Our parishes will not be used this way just to have them enrolled in our schools. The parishes’ service of these parish schools are provided by an ever ageing and thereby diminishing group of parishioners who are not being supported by those who utilise this gift.

UNIFORM SHOP - NEW OPENING TIMES

Opening hours
Tuesday Afternoon 3.00pm - 3.30pm & Thursday Morning 8.30am - 9.00am
Order forms available at the office. Payment of cash or cheque MUST be included with your order.

2016 FEE INCREASE NOTICE

2016 annual family fee will stay the same at $990.00 the student levy will increase slightly to $245.00 per child.

School fees include course and subject levies, and the costs of all curriculum excursions and activities. School Fee Statements will be issued at the commencement of the school year on 3rd February 2016 with payment schedules and forms for direct debits. Reminder Statements will be issued at the beginning of each term for your information.

To pre pay fees or set up your own payment schedule through your internet banking, please include your eldest child’s name as the reference.
St Mary’s BSB/ACCOUNT Details
St Marys Primary School
BSB 083-347
Account Number 676054930
Dear Parents,

On behalf of Mt.Evelyn Primary School OSHC we would like to invite you to our Vacation Care Program open to your wonderful school. You can receive your Booking Form for January School Holidays from your school office. You may also email, phone or pop in and see Melissa at the School OSHC office at Mt.Evelyn Primary School 9736 2233 osh@mtevelynps.vic.edu.au Monday – Friday 7.00am – 3.00pm

Melissa will be very happy to assist you and organise an enrolment package for your child/children. It is a great opportunity for our local school community to support a wonderful program. Kind regards, Melissa McDonald

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th Jan</td>
<td>High Tea</td>
<td>Vacation Care Daily All Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th Jan</td>
<td>Build a Bear Incursion</td>
<td>All Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th Jan</td>
<td>Melbourne Zoo Excursion</td>
<td>(Max 50 Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th Jan</td>
<td>Time Zone Excursion</td>
<td>(Max 50 Children)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Jan</td>
<td>NT Kids First Basketball Incursion</td>
<td>All Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Jan</td>
<td>Jump Deck Excursion</td>
<td>(Max 50 Children)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Jan</td>
<td>Carnival Day Activities</td>
<td>Vacation Care Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Jan</td>
<td>Mine Craft Day Excursion</td>
<td>Care Daily All Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Jan</td>
<td>Hop to you</td>
<td>Vacation Care Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd Jan</td>
<td>Guide Dogs Victoria Excursion</td>
<td>(Max 50 Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd Jan</td>
<td>Mine Craft Day</td>
<td>Vacation Care Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Jan</td>
<td>Reading Cinema Day Excursion</td>
<td>Care Daily All Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th Jan</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th Jan</td>
<td>Time Zone Excursion</td>
<td>(Max 50 Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Jan</td>
<td>Game Zone Activities</td>
<td>Vacation Care Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st Jan</td>
<td>High Tea</td>
<td>Vacation Care Daily</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ST MARY’S LOST PROPERTY

Lost property will be available for collection Thursday afternoons outside the office. All other times lost property is located in 5/6S.

Uniform Shop Assistants

Volunteers required for Uniform Shop on Thursday mornings 8.30 – 9.00am and Tuesday afternoons 3.00pm - 3.30pm

If you can assist, please leave your name at the office.

Karla's Creative Cakes

All Occasion Cakes

Birthdays, Anniversary, Sacraments, Themed Cakes, Weddings, Engagements, Cupcakes and party food

GLUTEN FREE AVAILABLE

Check out my Facebook page for photos ‘Karla’s Creative Cakes’ A Cake list and price list will be in the office. Christmas list coming soon

Any type of Cake or decoration considered, call me to discuss,

On 59643291 or 0427 884 837 Or email karlazmegac@gmail.com

The Naplan test results for Grades 3 & 5 are available for collection. We ask that when reading your children’s results that you remember that they are based on one test, on one occasion, back in May of this year. We monitor and assess your child’s progress on an ongoing basis to maintain a complete picture of their strengths and learning needs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to make a time to speak to the classroom teacher.

SCHOOL TERM DATES

2016

Term 1
Preps Only
Friday, 29th January – Thursday, 24th March

All other Students
Thursday 28th January – Thursday, 24th March

*Easter 25th – 28th March

Term 2
Monday, 11th April – Friday, 24th June

Term 3
Monday, 11th July – Friday, 16th September

Term 4
Monday, 3rd October – Friday, 16th December
Sunday, 6 Dec 2015: Second Sunday of Advent - Year C
The Word of God can come to us in unexpected ways. We must always be open to hear God's Word and to see God's presence in the lives of those we meet.
Advent is a time for all of us to prepare and change. It is a time to be aware that we can encounter God in many unexpected ways, and we have to be ready.
When we respond to an appeal, or reach out to those who society neglects, we are responding to the call to prepare the way of the Lord and to change our lives.

Gospel
Lk 3:1-6
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
All people shall see the salvation of God.
In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar’s reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:
A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. The Gospel of the Lord

Class Masses this week: 5 / 6 L and 1 / 2 R will celebrate Mass in the church on Thursday at 9.00a.m. All welcome to attend.
Mini Vinnies: Don’t forget the “giving tree” in the office! You are welcome to take a tag and buy a present for the person named on the star. Please place the unwrapped present under the tree. Presents will be collected from the office to be wrapped and put into parcel groups at the end of this week. Many thanks for your generosity.
Upcoming Masses: The end of year whole school Mass will take place on Tuesday 15th December at 9.15am. Graduation Mass will take place on Thursday 17th December at 5.00pm.
Newsletter article: Bushfire At-Risk Register - Schools

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter [and SMS message/phone tree]. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, [reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility’s grounds and gutters]

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, [by checking our website [insert URL] and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.

For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.
REMINDER
Families that do not take part in a Working Bee duty or make a donation of $60.00 will be billed $60.00 on their 2015 school fees.
For any queries please contact the office.
Please contact the office to make a time to pop in and do any work around the school at a time convenient to you.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE
Each year St. Vincent de Paul collects Christmas gifts for those in need. We have a gift tree in the Church each year to help contribute to this wonderful cause and we also have one in the School office. If you would like to donate a gift please pick up a tag from the Christmas tree.
All gifts must be new - No second hand items please. No need to wrap gifts up.

REMINDER
SCHOOL FEES are due NOW!
unless other arrangements have been made with the office.
St Mary's BSB/ACCOUNT Details

PLEASE SEE BELOW OUR BSB DETAILS FOR ONLINE TRANSFERS
St Marys Primary School
BSB 083-347
Account Number 676054930
Please contact the office for any queries regarding your account....

MT. EVELYN NETBALL CLUB INC
Winter Season 2016 Registrations Open Sunday 6th December - Online
Registrations are now online. Please visit our Fox Sports website or Facebook for all the details and follow the link. Questions and offline payments accepted Tues 8th and Wed 9th Dec 4-5pm at the Netball clubrooms, Morrison Reserve, Mt Evelyn. Enquiries please call Sheelagh 9736 1132
Winter Season commences 5th March 2016

DON'T LOSE THIS NOTICE
2016
ENROL NOW
KEYBOARD LESSONS AT SCHOOL IN-SCHOOL TIME

YOUR CHILD DESERVES THIS CHANCE
THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY
Enrol NOW in PIANO ON KEYBOARD LESSONS
* Convenient - at school time
* Integrated
* Learn with friends
* All equipment provided
* INDIVIDUAL tuition

ONE FREE LESSON IF YOU ENROL NOW
Ph no 9761 9058
St. Mary’s Christmas Eve Family Mass

Thursday 24th December 2015
Carols 4.45pm Mass - 5.00pm

If your child would like to participate in this special occasion, please fill out the form below and return to the office by the 29th November.

NEXT WEEKS REHERSALS FOR CHRISTMAS MASS ON THURSDAY 10th December AT 3.15PM…. for all queries contact Ronnie Pritchard

P & F Newsletter

NOMINATIONS FOR THE INCOMING 2016 COMMITTEE

Please find the nomination forms in the newsletter and fill in which position you would be interested in helping with. All positions are available. We have listed the positions below for you to consider.

Please return your completed form to the office as soon as possible.

President - Vice-president – Treasurer – Banking - Secretary of minutes - Tuckshop co-ordinators (4 people) - Tuckshop Rosters
- Uniform shop co-ordinator -Uniform shop assistants (4 people) - Special Food Day (3 times a year)
- Stalls (2 to 4 people) - Food Bank co-ordinator - Fundraising committees (disco, trivia night, field day chocolate drive etc) - General Committee Member

NAME OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I, __________________________ wish to nominate __________________________

(Your name)

For the position of __________________________

(Name of person you are nominating / self)

(Position you are nominating them / self for)

Signature __________________________

(Of person agreeing to be nominated if unable to be present at the meeting)

Date: __________________________

Signature __________________________

(Your signature)

Date: __________________________

Please return this slip to the school office by 15th February 2016
THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the P & F Committee members for all their wonderful efforts this year. You have all been a fabulous group of people to work with. Also a big thank you to our other St Mary’s families who have helped out throughout the year at various events. Without all the wonderful support of our school community we would not be able to give our children all the wonderful things we have been able to give them year after year.

FOOD BANK - DONATIONS REQUIRED

We are still asking for donations of, lasagne sheets, pasta sauce, tomato paste, stock and anything else we can use to make up trays of yummy lasagne and Bolognese sauce. We would also appreciate monetary donations or gift vouchers so we can purchase food stuffs to try some new recipes.

If you know of anyone from St Mary’s Primary school that may need some help with a meal for their family, please contact the office.

PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN THE TUCKSHOP ROSTER FOR 2016

See next page......

ST MARY’S DRINKS STALL

@ ‘THE WANDIN CUSTOM CAR & BIKE SHOW

Wandin Recreation Reserve (Mel ref: 121 k9)

We need help on our St Mary’s drinks stall which is a massive annual fundraiser for our primary school......

Dates and times required are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>4.00pm - 6.30pm</th>
<th>6.30pm - 9.00pm</th>
<th>6.30pm - 9.00pm</th>
<th>(please tick availability)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 20th</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16th</td>
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</table>

Name: ________________________________ Contact Phone: ________________________________

Please contact Shelly on 0419 531 624 or Sam on 0408 562 282 for all enquiries or alternatively call the office on 9736 2219 to put your name on the roster or fill out the form above and return to the office.
TUCKSHOP ROSTER 2016

The St Mary’s Primary School Canteen operates every Friday between 9.00am – 1.00pm. Volunteers are needed to help run the canteen. If you are able to help, please fill out the attached form and return to school office ASAP.

Thankyou,

NAME ___________________________________ PHONE ____________________________

Permission to give your phone number to other parents if required    YES / NO

EMAIL _______________________________________________________________

ELDEST CHILD AND GRADE ________________________________________________

Availability (please tick)

TERM 1

☐ WEEKLY ☐ FORTNIGHTLY ☐ MONTHLY ☐ EMERGENCY ☐ CO-ORDINATOR ☐ OTHER ______

TERM 2

☐ WEEKLY ☐ FORTNIGHTLY ☐ MONTHLY ☐ EMERGENCY ☐ CO-ORDINATOR ☐ OTHER ______

TERM 3

☐ WEEKLY ☐ FORTNIGHTLY ☐ MONTHLY ☐ EMERGENCY ☐ CO-ORDINATOR ☐ OTHER ______

TERM 4

☐ WEEKLY ☐ FORTNIGHTLY ☐ MONTHLY ☐ EMERGENCY ☐ CO-ORDINATOR ☐ OTHER ______

Thanks for your help!
ORDERING: Please put your child’s Name, Grade, Order and Amount (and change) clearly on a paper bag. Correct change if possible (wrap money in paper) For Families paying together, please write on each bag name and grade of each child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOT FOOD</th>
<th>DRINKS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef Pie</td>
<td>Nipples Milk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party Pie</td>
<td>(Choc, Strawberry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party Sausage Roll</td>
<td>Mineral Water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Dog</td>
<td>Orange, Cola, Apple Raspberry or Blue Heaven</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dim Sims</td>
<td>Just Juice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken tenders</td>
<td>Apple or Paradise Punch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party Pasties</td>
<td>Fruit Tingle Flavoured Water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lasagne</td>
<td>佐esper Dooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mac n Cheese</td>
<td>Dixie Cup</td>
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<td>Extras (Please write as a separate item)</td>
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<td>Soya Sauce</td>
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<td>Tomato Sauce</td>
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<td>Brown Paper Bags</td>
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<tr>
<th>ROLLS</th>
<th>SNACKS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Buttered</td>
<td>Jam Doughnut</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ring Doughnut</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chocolate or Strawberry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Choc Chip Cookie</td>
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<td>Low Salt Popcorn</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vegie Chips Salt &amp; Vinegar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Low salt plain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Honey and soy</td>
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<tr>
<th>ADD</th>
<th>SPECIAL TREATS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vegemite</td>
<td>Red Skins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>Milko Sticks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayo</td>
<td>Ovalteenies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>Sunfruit Lollie Bag</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomato</td>
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**Uniform Shop Assistants**

Volunteers required for Uniform Shop on Thursday mornings 8.30 – 9.00am

If you can assist, please leave your name at the office.
It’s a (Christmas) WRAP!

How will you close up the school year and set the scene to make next year your child’s best year ever?

It’s that time of year again! The school year is almost over. The Christmas holidays are just around the corner.

“Where did the last twelve months go?” That’s the adult viewpoint. Kids think, “What took so long?” Different ages, different perspectives.

Kids generally want to plunge into holidays, leaving schoolwork, timetables and teachers behind. That’s only natural.

But before they get too far into holiday mode, consider how you’ll round out the year, and bring it to a close. If your child is finishing primary or secondary school then there will be a graduation ceremony that signals the end of one phase of their school lives.

The greater importance given to school graduation ceremonies over the last few decades is recognition of the human need to bring closure to one stage of life, and prepare for the next.

Kids of all ages benefit from parental recognition of their achievements and successes as it sets the stage for the coming school year.

Here are a few ideas to help you close off the old year to prepare for the year ahead:

1. Discuss the highlights and the lowlights of the year:
   Ask kids to name their highlights, favourite times or most memorable moments of the year just gone. Use age appropriate language and questions that will open them up, rather than shut them down. At the year’s end I would ask my school-aged kids to rate the year from 1 to 5, and to identify their best memory, their favourite subject and something new that they encountered. These questions worked for me, but each parent needs to find their own approach.

2. Celebrate improvement and success:
   Identify one or two areas where they excelled, improved or overcame some challenges. Broaden the focus away from just academic performance and recognise achievement in social, sport or arts areas. It’s important for kids who struggle academically to understand that you value success in a variety of areas.

3. Show appreciation:
   Consider how they can show appreciation to teachers, coaches or other people who may have assisted them during the year. Not only is it good manners to show gratitude, but some kids need reminding that other people contribute to their achievements.

4. Look forward
   It maybe beneficial to give your kids a chance to vent about some aspect of the year that they didn’t like, found difficult or challenging. Try to limit this type of discussion so that it doesn’t end in a whinge session and point them toward a better future next year.

5. Now relax
   It’s time for them to set the previous school year aside, put their feet up and chill out over the school break. Remember, if the previous year wasn’t one of your child’s best, the five to six week break gives him or her a chance to make a fresh start next year.

So it’s a wrap! The slate has been wiped clean. Enjoy the break and see you next year!