St. Mary’s congratulates..

Student of the Week
Writing
Anna Rogers
Bronte Daniher
Rhyle Davis
Olivia Nicholson
Porsha Bolte
Zoe Smith
Claire McCaskie

Value of the Week
Freedom & Respect
Ella Pettit
Kayla Strudwick
Fleur Sykes
Kobe Pursehouse
Paris Anderson Lynch
Jaylie Pilon
Matthew Harland

The next class Mass will be held on Wednesday May 12 for Year 6 in the Chapel at 12.30pm. Parents and Grandparents are warmly invited to attend.

St. Mary’s says thankyou..

* To Bellarwi CWA for their donation of an ANZAC Day Book.
* To families who are showing support to the School by attending to fee payment commitments.
* To the Dignan family for their great work in tiling around the bubblers.
* To the P&F for the fantastic work and organisation for the Mother’s Day Stall today.
* To Ryde Lions Club, Sydney for their generous drought-relief donation. This donation will be used to fund attendance at the Mobile Zoo in week 5 for K-6.
* To parents and teachers who helped and supported students at the Gundagai Cross Country.

St. Mary’s prays for..

* Confirmation candidates who are reflecting on how to deepen their faith and making this a life-long commitment. Several of the students have made a good start with this preparation by attendance at Mass on Sunday.
* All Mothers on Mother’s Day this Sunday.
* Those who have lost loved ones or are experiencing grief

CLASS MASSES

The School will be hosting Mass at 10.00am on Sunday May 16. Parents and friends are warmly invited to attend Mass, and if your family is able to attend this Mass, please fill in and return the slip at the end of the Newsletter

“Plant the Seed, Nurture the Growth, Celebrate the Harvest”
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE/ACTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAPLAN Tests</td>
<td>Tues 11 May - Thurs 13 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1/2 LCCC sausage sizzle lunch</td>
<td>Tuesday 11 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFL School Clinic Kinder-Yr 4</td>
<td>Wednesday 12 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting, 7.30pm</td>
<td>Thursday 13 May</td>
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<td>Sunday Mass hosted by School</td>
<td>Sunday 16 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Counsellor visit</td>
<td>Monday 17 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobile Zoo at school for students K– 6</td>
<td>Wednesday 19 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6 Boys Rugby Union Griffith</td>
<td>* * * POSTPONED TO TERM 3 * * *</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRC Walkathon</td>
<td>Friday 21 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre School visits</td>
<td>Tuesday, Wednesday &amp; Thursday 25/26/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whole School Open Day</td>
<td>postponed from 11 June to 30 July</td>
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**SCHOOL COUNSELLOR VISITS**

School counsellor, Emma McRae will be visiting St Mary’s on 17 May & 7 June. Please contact the school or email Emma direct on emma.mcrae@catholiccare.cg.org.au

Seasons for Growth is a program for children, young people or adults who have experienced significant change or loss. Seasons for Growth is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are a normal and valuable part of life. We examine the impact of changes such as death, separation, divorce, and natural disaster upon our lives, and explore how we can learn to live with and grow from these experiences.

Our School Counsellor, Emma is offering to run a FREE Seasons for Growth program for ADULTS in term 3. This program would run for 4 weeks (2 hours/week). There would also be an information session prior the program starting. If you are interested in attending, please send Emma your expression of interest along with preferred day & time to emma.mcrae@catholiccare.cg.org.au or leave this information with the school office to be passed on to Emma. This will be a free program.

**CROSS COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS**

Last Friday the 30th April 2010 a group of 24 students travelled to Gundagai to participate in the Western Region Cross Country. It was a beautiful day with perfect conditions for running. The course was held on the river flats at the Gundagai showground so while there were no hills as obstacles, there was the odd surprise of a cow to navigate around! The students all participated to the very best of their ability and were extremely well behaved; they were a credit to themselves and our school.

Happy birthday to Taffy McKee Duff, Kobe Pursehouse and Ed Daniher who celebrate birthdays next week.
URGENT
HEAD LICE
There have been more reported cases of head lice in the school. Please be vigilant and check your child’s head this weekend, and treat accordingly.

NSW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010
This year, St. Christopher’s Primary School Panania will be hosting the NSW CPS Basketball championships on Sat 16 and Sun 17 October (Term 4 Week 1). In order for accommodation to be organised, could you please indicate on the attached slip if your child would be interested in playing. Teams are Yr 3/4 girls & boys and Yr 5/6 girls & boys. Nominations should be carefully considered, as once payment has been made, there is no guarantee of reimbursement in case of a forfeit.

We thank the P&F for their continued support of this carnival by way of paying the nomination costs.

AFL SCHOOL CLINIC
Students in Kinder-Year 4 will be taking part in an Aussie Rules Clinic which will be held at the School on Wednesday 12 May & 19 May at the following times -

Wednesday 12 May
Year 4 - 9.00am
Year 1/2 - 9.40am
Kinder - 10.15am
Year 3 - 11.25am

Wednesday 19 May
Year 3 - 9.00am
Year 1/2 - 9.40am
Kinder - 10.15am
Year 4 - 11.25am

Students are to wear their sports uniform on these days.

2010 National Assessments Years 3 & 5 (NAPLAN)
Tuesday 11 May - Thursday 13 May
How to best support your child -
* Ensure your child has a good nights sleep
* Give them a solid healthy breakfast – but don’t overload them
* Cut back on after school activities if your child is tired, but encourage fresh air and a fun play outside
* Kids pick up cues from us – so keep it low key. The test will cover normal classroom/curriculum work learnt over a period of time – so no extra tutoring or last minute studying is necessary;
* Emphasize that this is just one of many tests they will have during their schooling, and it is to help them learn better;

Most of all – reassure them that you are proud of them … for who they are - not what they can do.
No test can ever measure a persons worth.

Information provided from http://www.cccsp.catholic.edu.au/
The Catholic Education Commission has sent through the following information:
· NSW Catholic school authorities consider that the outcomes of NAPLAN testing are most valuable, particularly the detailed reports available to parents and the comprehensive diagnostic information available to schools in the SMART reporting package
· A fundamental purpose of NAPLAN for teachers and schools is to provide a measure of learning growth along with rich diagnostic data to complement school-level assessment data and the 2010 NAPLAN data will make this possible for the first time.
· NSW Catholic school authorities recognise the expectations of NAPLAN results by governments and the community as a form of accountability and as a source of data for school improvement.
· However, it is misleading to make comparative evaluations of individual schools on the basis of their NAPLAN results without taking account of the full local context of the school and its community.

CAN YOU HELP??
The builders have discovered that there is an old fireplace in the hall which is currently being restored. Does anyone have photos of the old school hall in all its glory, particularly the fireplace? We would love to see them, so please ask grandparents or those who have moved away from town for their assistance.

WINTER UNIFORM FITTINGS
Winter skirts will be made on request by Jenny Fitzgerald. Please phone Jenny directly on 69723656 of an evening to arrange a fitting.
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST — Catholic Primary Schools BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

My child __________________ is interested in participating in the CPS Basketball Championships to be held at Bankstown & Menai on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 October 2010.

I am able to

- coach a team
- manage a team
- accommodation co-ordination

(please circle)

Signed______________________    Contact No____________

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MASS - SUNDAY 16 MAY 2010

My child/ren ________________________ will be attending the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 16 May, hosted by St Mary’s School.

Signed________________________

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TAFE NSW Riverina Institute—Upcoming courses

Safety Checking Electrical Appliances Course $270
4 June 2010 8.00am—5.00pm

Safe Working in Confined Spaces $165
7 & 8 June 2010 9.00am—5.00pm & 9 June 2.30—5.00pm

First Aid Course $165.00
9 June 2010 9.00am—5.00pm

For further information contact
TAFE West Wyalong 69790816

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Sydney Theatre Company & Zeal Theatre present

“BURNT”

MPS Centre, West Wyalong High School
Tuesday 11 May 2010
Commencing 7.00pm

Come and have a fun night out to watch a play which is about life on the land.

Tickets available from Bland Shire Council,
West Wyalong High School or The Health Cottage.
(gold coin donation invited)