Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Tomorrow is World Teachers’ Day. It is a time honoured to acknowledge the wonderful work teachers and school officers do for the learning our children achieve.

Learning is a collaborative affair that requires schools and homes, parents and teachers to work together in the best interests of students. For parents, this means that values taught in the home need to be strong and lived in the footsteps of Jesus, “Love one another just as I have loved you.” If this respect is vibrant in the home, the job for the teacher is simply to build on those values. We all want our children to be civil and polite to any person they meet. It is important that we (parents and the wider community) do all we can to support teachers in engaging and motivating our children to grow as lifelong learners.

Education is very different to when I was a child and even for those parents who are much younger than I am. It is different in a good way, but also very challenging. When I was young, I only had to worry that my parents would not let me watch any television after 7.30pm and that was after an hour and a half of news and current affairs. The children of today have so many distractions and it is difficult for them to prioritise the important things in life – compassion of and consideration for others. Our teachers have the unenviable job of achieving this with anywhere between 20 and 30 independent minds and characters who at times, think they know better. Families have to be supportive of the great job teachers do to balance each child’s opportunity for learning.

In many regards, parents are their children’s first teachers but during the course of primary and secondary school, it is often individual teachers that enliven education and cause students to identify what is most exciting and rewarding.

Each one of us, if asked, could most likely name one or two special teachers who made what was being studied, engaging, lively and relevant and who sparked an interest and passion for learning that was life changing. Let us take time out over the next few days to thank our teachers and school officers for the job they do.

Have a great week and take some time. Margaret

163 Palmerin Street (PO Box 555) Warwick Qld 4370
Phone: 4661 1872   Fax: 4661 4809
Email: smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au
Website: http://www.smwarwick.catholic.edu.au
Thank you God for my Teacher

➢ I thank God for Mrs Doyle because she is pretty and a kind teacher. (Macey)
➢ I thank God for Miss Lewis because she is nice and lets us play. (Sophie & Isabella)
➢ I thank God for Miss Brosnan because she is loving, helpful and really good at Maths. (Summer & Dakota)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Wright because she lets us do colourings and lets us work together. (Joey & Will)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Lawson because she does fun things with us and does lots of singing and art. (Torrie & Matthew)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Stevenson because she is a quiet teacher who is always fun. (Abby & Malachi)
➢ I thank God for Mrs King because she is really kind and good at explaining things. (Brandon)
➢ I thank God for Miss Norton because she helps us learn really well and she makes the work exciting. (Sebastian)
➢ I thank God for Miss Mathews because she is kind and has amazing creative talents. (Seb & Adam)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Bardsley because she does sports with us and always gets involved with activities. (Thomas)
➢ I thank God for Miss Oldham because she is a nice, caring teacher who helps you out when you are struggling. (Corbin & Max)
➢ I thank God for Ms Stevens because she finds a fun way to learn and she is very dedicated to learning. (Sophie & Ella)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Dearden because she reads with great enthusiasm and for making Grade 6 a great year. (Sam & Cody)
➢ I thank God for Miss Rutledge because she thinks of everybody as equals and believes in fairness. (Samantha)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Gillam because she teaches us new things on the computers. (Imogen)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Hilton because she lets us do music and colouring. (Maeve)
➢ I thank God for Mrs McCray because she is helpful and helps us learn about the computers and our bodies. (Brice)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Byrne because she is kind and loving and helps us with our reading. (Hannah)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Shooter because she is a lot of fun and helps the other teachers. (Albert)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Young because she is respectful and treats other people the way she wants to be treated. (Hugh)
➢ I thank God for Mrs Grew because she has special awards at Assembly and she looks after our school. (Will)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr Andrew Smith, our sensational groundsman. His beautiful school gardens won second place in the Schools with Over 100 Students in the Warwick Horticultural Society Spring Flower Show competition. Thank you Mr Smith.

Also congratulations to Mrs Sullivan and the St Mary’s School Kindergarten Team for your win in the garden competition. They were awarded 1st place in Australian Native Gardens and also 1st place in Schools with Under 100 Students.
Date Claimer – Nativity Liturgy
This year we will celebrate our school Nativity Liturgy on Tuesday, 4\textsuperscript{th} December at 6pm. All children will have a part in the liturgy and it will be one of the lovely ways to finish the school year.

Curriculum
Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum

![Recognise](image1.png) ![React](image2.png) ![Report](image3.png)

Adults are ultimately responsible for keeping children safe. However, there is evidence that safety education can result in important learning with lasting positive benefits for students. Learning about safety can help students become more confident to take steps to avoid unsafe situations and tell someone if they are in situations that are unsafe. The Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Programme is being taught by Mrs McCray as part of the health curriculum. These lessons combine to teach your child how to react in unsafe situations. The Daniel Morcombe Foundation sends this important message to children using three simple rules.

- **Recognise** – Listen to your body clues.
- **React** – Run to a safe place.


Administration

DRESS UP DAY

**TOMORROW**

FRIDAY, 26\textsuperscript{TH} OCTOBER 2018

Day for Daniel & Rodeo Dress Up

Wear something **RED**

Please bring a gold coin donation to be shared between the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and the Drought Appeal

- Shirts must have sleeves and a collar.
- Closed-in shoes must be worn.
- Hat needs to have a full brim.
- No spurs, whips, toy guns etc. to be brought to school.
**Transition**
To support the transition of students beginning Prep next year at St Mary’s we are continuing our transition program this term. We encourage all parents to bring their children along on a Wednesday from 10:30-12:00. Please bring a hat, water bottle and lunch. Students who attend St Mary’s Kindergarten will attend with Mrs Sullivan on the Wednesdays that they are at Kindy. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to become more familiar with school and excited about starting ‘big school’.

**Up Day**
On the 27th November we will hold our annual ‘Up Day’ where everyone spends the morning in the classrooms where they will be the following year. This includes the Year Six students spending the day at Assumption College. This article is an excellent article about the transition from primary school to secondary school – https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/enewsletter/interview-supporting-transition-high-school

**Planning for 2019**
We are currently making plans for 2019. If possible, we wish to have accurate details with enrolments. If your child will not be returning to St Mary’s for the 2019 school year, please contact the office as soon as possible. Families leaving prior to their children completing Year 6 at St Mary’s are invited to complete an exit form giving details of where children will be attending school in the future. This excludes the current Year 6 classes.

**Chess Club**
We have been enjoying games of Chess on a Thursday at Snack time at the Upper Campus. Learning new skills and making new friends. All are invited to attend.

We have also been invited to participate in Chess Coaching and a Chess Tournament at Assumption College. Information will be given out to students who attend Chess Club with the required skill level to participate in the tournament. If your child is interested and they are not already attending Chess Club please encourage them to come along.

**Visit by Registered Nurse for Free Prep Vision Screening**
Good vision is important for a child’s educational, physical and social development. Vision screening is therefore vital in early childhood, particularly for conditions such as ‘lazy eye’, which if not detected early can lead to blindness.

A Registered Nurse will be visiting the school in 2018 to commence vision screening for all Prep Year children. If you wish to have your child participate in this free vision screening program, please complete and sign the consent form sent home with your child and return this to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible. You will be advised in writing of the outcome of your child’s screening.

Please note that if your child has had a vision assessment in the past 12 months it is not necessary for him/her to participate in this screening program. If this is the case, please complete the consent form and indicate that you do not wish for your child to participate and ensure that you follow the schedule of reviews recommended by your eye health professional.
Spotted RISING UP

Congratulations to all the students who have been ‘Spotted Rising Up’ this week. Last week our weekly prize winners were Aiden Byrne and Cody Fanning. Please celebrate with your child if they have brought home a Spotted Rising Up slip.

School Fees

School Fees for Term 4 have been emailed to those who have given an email address. Families paying fees regularly through Direct Debits may need to make an extra payment (cash or EFTPOS) in order for your accounts to be paid in full, by Friday 7th December, 2018. After checking your account please advise the office if you would like your Direct Debit stopped over the holidays and the date you would like it restarted. If you are unsure of your amount still owing, please contact the School Office.

Queensland Ready Reading

The Ready Reading program is coming to Toowoomba in early November.

Parents and community members are invited to make a difference in their local community by volunteering in schools to support children’s reading.

Reading is a powerful tool to help children grow their vocabulary, language skills and imagination. It helps them to develop life-long skills that are the foundation for their future growth and learning.

The Department of Education and Volunteering Queensland are working together to train up to 3000 volunteers to share their knowledge and time to foster a love of reading with children.

Register your interest to become a Ready Reading volunteer.

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES

Semester 2

Bus Fare Assistance

- Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
- Does your family spend more than $20/week* on fares to and from school (* $15/week if you hold a concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a publicly available bus not owned or associated with the school?

Students With Disability

- Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?
- Has your school’s learning support teacher assessed your child’s travel capability rating as ‘semi-independent’ or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 October.

Late applications cannot be accepted.
Survey for Music Programme in Year 4 & Year 5 2019
The Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office is currently conducting a survey across the Diocese to investigate the feasibility of a future Instrumental Music programme in schools. Parents of Year 3 and Year 4 students in 2018 are invited to complete this short survey, which is open now:

Sport
Swimming Carnival
The Annual Swimming Carnival will be held in week 9, Monday 3rd December.

Warwick & District Interschool Sport
Commencing this week, the Year 6 students will be travelling every Friday to other schools to participate in either Cricket or T-ball. Those students who opted out of these sports will be involved in regular Friday afternoon sport at school.

There is no cost associated with this activity but please ensure your child, if participating, brings plenty of water, food, hat, sunscreen and a willingness to be a reliable team member.

The draw for week 3 – St Mary’s V Killarney at Killarney State School
The draw for week 4 - St Mary’s V Glennie Heights at Glennie Heights State School

Library News
Reading is the winner
Yesterday seven St Mary’s teams from Years 3 & 4 competed at the Warwick High School in the Brilliant, Awesome Reading Extravaganza for Extraordinary Children. A total of 31 teams from various district schools competed for reading honours in a hotly contested competition.

Freestone received top prize with 27 points (out of 30). St Mary’s Team 3 comprising of Taliah Benz, Azailia Grant and Ava Salmon came SECOND on 26.5 points. Jayda Williams was supposed to be in this team also but volunteered to assist another St Mary’s team who didn’t have enough members. All our teams competed with enthusiasm and a great deal of enjoyment.

Special thanks must go to Janine Brosnan and Megan Kajewski who coached the teams in the lead-up to the event. Thanks to parents and caregivers for their support also.
**Students need libraries campaign**

**WHAT A SCHOOL LIBRARY CAN DO FOR YOU**

The school library can enable students to achieve better learning outcomes.

- The school library is a welcoming, flexible environment.
- Provide equitable access to resources to help communities cater for:
  - individual learning styles
  - varied abilities
  - cultural differences
- School libraries help improve student literacy by offering reading opportunities.
- School libraries support investigation, study, and research.
- Teacher-librarians can teach students the information literacy skills framework.
- Reading experiences enrich our knowledge of the world.
- Reading experiences increase empathy and emotional intelligence.
- Teacher-librarians can teach students the information literacy skills framework.

Library staff are the best resource in the library. They can:
- help plan a unit of work
- find a resource
- integrate ICT into teaching
- curate internet sources
- teach and promote the ethical use of information.

There is a large body of evidence-based research that shows effective school libraries have a positive impact upon learning and enrich the lives of their school community.

**Assumption College**

Assumption College will be closing their 2nd hand uniform shop at the end of this year. If there are any Year 6 parents who wish to access this service, please do so before the end of this term.
Parish Events

St Mary’s Catholic Parish Warwick

MELBOURNE CUP CELEBRATION

Sunday 4th November 2018
4pm
Assisi Place
Entry $5 on the door. Sausage Sizzle available. Please bring sweets to share.
BYO drinks, Tea & Coffee Provided
MONIES RAISED FROM DOOR WILL GO TO YOUTH PROGRAM FOR 2019
Tickets may be purchased on the day
$1 Sweep $2 Sweep $5 Sweep

DRESS IN STYLE FOR Melbourne Cup

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Tuesday 6th November 2018
Assisi Place from 12noon
$15 per head for light lunch
Please pre purchase tickets from the office

RSVP: Patrice 0418 854 616
or Parish Office 4661 1033
by Thursday 1st November
Prizes for Best dressed, hat or fascinator and lucky door!
A Steady Start to School

A practical parent/carer workshop to help prepare your child for school – developed specifically for families in rural and remote areas.

**WHEN:**  
Wednesday 28 November 5.30 – 7pm  
Or Thursday 06 December 9 – 10.30am  
**FREE!**

**WHERE:**  
191 Wood Street WARWICK  
* Sorry, no childcare available *

Starting school is a big step for children and their families. When children have a good start to school they are likely to have a better time at school overall.

Parents and carers have the ability to provide a good learning environment at home so children can continue to grow and learn with formal schooling.

You will learn practical ways to help learning at home now and when school starts.

This is a workshop to help parents and carers learn:

- Why a good transition to school is important
- Practical things to do before school starts
- Practical things to do when school starts
- How to make a home that is a fun and a good place to learn

Special thanks to our funders & supporters:  
Australian Government  
Department of Social Services  
Queensland Government

**Presenter/s:**

For more information or to register:

BUSHkids Warwick  
Ph 46671200

Registrations are required **one week prior** to each workshop date to assist our planning.
You're invited to a FREE, informative workshop:

**VENUE**  
Warwick BUSHkids  
191 Wood Street

**ON:**  
Wednesday 21 Nov  
5.30 – 6.30pm  
or  
Friday 07 Dec 9 – 10am

**Read and Grow Parent Workshop**

A workshop to help Parents and Carers learn strategies to:

- Develop early literacy skills in small children through shared book reading
- Practical skills to enhance book reading to your children
- Story sharing
- Provide fun activities to develop a love for reading

Free children’s book for each family to take home

Read and Grow is a parent-child interactive story sharing program that was developed for the Northern Gold Coast Communities for Children, an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

For more information or to register:

To register, call:

Warwick BUSHkids ph 46671200

**Presenters:**

BUSHkids Family Health Support Worker – Linda Choiawinsky

BUSHkids Speech-Language Pathologist – Yolanda Maudsley

Registrations are required **one week prior** to each workshop date to assist our planning.