Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to St Mark’s School Inala – to all of our new families and students plus all of our existing families and students, we welcome you for the start of the 2016 school year! We hope you have had a relaxing holiday with your family. It was great to see so many smiling faces this morning.

This short newsletter is to give you some important dates coming up in the next few weeks:

**Saturday 30th January:** P & F Fundraising BBQ at Bunnings Oxley 8am-4pm. Please contact the school office if you are able to help cooking or serving this Saturday.

**Wednesday 3rd February:** P and F Meeting 5:30 pm at the school.

**Friday 5th February:** Welcome Back BBQ at school from 3pm-4:30pm. BBQ ($2 Sausages, $2 Drinks), Face Painting, $2 Raffles and painting of the new buddy bench. All profit will go towards subsidising the cost of the Year 6 Leadership Shirts.

**Wednesday 10th February:** Ash Wednesday Mass at 9am.

**Wednesday 10th February:** Parent Information Evening at 6:30pm.

**Friday 12th February:** Whole School Mass at 9:30am.

**Drop-off and pick-up:** School supervision starts at 8:20am in the morning and parents are asked to drop their children off after 8:20am. In the afternoon, there are two areas for pick-up: 1) in Lilac Street at the drive-through zone in front of the school where you remain in your car whilst a teacher puts your child in the car and 2) in Eucalypt Street: Please park your car and come in to the gate to collect your child. All students are to be picked up by 3:20pm each day.

**Staffing news:** During the holidays, Christine Ioannides was appointed as Acting Principal at St Joachim’s School, Holland Park for 2016. We wish Christine all the best for this year in her new role. We welcome Clare Kuschert to St Mark’s as Acting Assistant Principal for 2016. We also warmly welcome teachers who are new to St Mark’s: Annie Fitzgerald (Year 2) and Ann Prestidge (Year 1). We welcome back several teachers who had leave during last year: Kym Davy (Year 4): Jacqui Lerkenfeldt (Prep) and Eugene Shaw (ESL) + Teresa Cheine who will teach Year 5 this term whilst Simon Everett is on leave. Congratulations to Jess Davy who was married during the holidays (now Mrs Scanlon!)

I look forward to meeting you this week and at our welcome BBQ next week. Please come in and say hello!

Enjoy the week ahead.

Allison Malouf

Principal