



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

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**May 22 2017**  
**Term 2 Week 6**

## National Simultaneous Story Time Wednesday 24 May

Dear Parents and Carers

**Reading:** During 2017, our major focus is on improving reading progress and fostering a love of reading amongst students. As well as intensive work in class, this term we have introduced 'before school reading' from 8am in the amphitheatre each day. We are also entering the Premier's Reading Challenge, which is a great program for all students - please see the back page of this newsletter for more information on the Premier's Reading Challenge.

**Prayers please:** Last week, Alan Donovan died after a short illness with cancer. Alan was our school architect who had designed many of the St Mark's school buildings over many years, including the new office block and Mercy Hall. We shall remember Alan as a quiet, gracious and humble man, who always delivered the best possible designs and constructions for our school and for schools across the Brisbane Archdiocese. Our school will miss him enormously and we keep his family in our prayers for the time ahead. May he rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon him.

**State of Origin Free Dress Day:** Next Wednesday 31 May is the first State of Origin Rugby League match! In honour of Queensland (and NSW!), students are asked to wear 'free dress' for the day in exchange for a gold coin. All money goes to the St Vincent De Paul winter appeal. Please note that sun-safety tops with sleeves, closed in shoes and school hat are to be worn.

**Maintenance:** Starting last weekend, we are having the verandahs and walkways cleaned and painted by Emmanuel Painting. This process should take several weeks and is occurring on week-ends.

Our **P and F Executive** consists of Eric Haylock (President), Mark Bennett (Vice-President) and Ena Miranda (Treasurer). The position of **Secretary** is currently vacant. Please consider taking on this role if you are able to - please give me a call if you wish to discuss the position. The P and F Association do a wonderful job at our school with coordinating community events and fundraising and need this vital position to be filled.

One of the great joys of my job is talking to children about their learning - during the past two weeks, several Prep students have visited 'the office' to proudly show their writing and reading - well done Preppies!

Allison Malouf  
Principal

*Literacy is the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realise his or her full potential.*

*Kofi Annan*

### 2017 TERM DATES:

Term 1: 24 Jan - 31 Mar  
Term 2: 18 Apr - 23 Jun  
Term 3: 10 Jul - 15 Sep  
Term 4: 3 Oct - 1 Dec

### Upcoming Events



Wednesday 24 May:  
Year 2 Excursion - 2G

Thursday 25 May: Year  
2 Excursion 2W and 2B

Friday 26 May:  
National Day of  
Healing

Wednesday 31 May:  
State of Origin Free  
Dress Day

Friday 16 June: School  
Athletics Carnival

# Religious Life of the School News

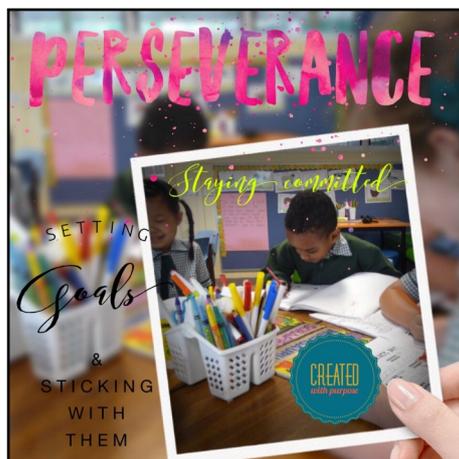
## National Day of Healing for all Australians

This Friday marks the **National Day of Healing for all Australians** (formally known as **National Sorry Day**) which first began in 1998. It came about because of a report called *Bringing them home* by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission into the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. This report brought to light the many hardships endured by Indigenous Australians since the very first days of the European occupation of Australia and made recommendations to move towards reconciliation for all Australians. Today, almost twenty years has past and we as a school community will take some time to reflect on this dark part of our nation's history and pray for the inspiration and courage to be people of reconciliation. As followers of Jesus, we remember the message of Pope John Paul II when he visited Alice Springs in 1986. He affirmed and encouraged our Indigenous brother and sisters, and reminded us that we, the Church of Australia, will not fully be the Church that Jesus wants us to be until their contribution has been joyfully received. At St Mark's, we want to be a part of making that dream become real by taking the time to learn, to share and to pray together!



### Date Claimers ...

- **National Day of healing for all Australians** (formally Sorry Day) is on **Friday 26 May**.
- **Friday 26 May**, 1B will lead us in our prayer assembly.
- **Wednesday 31 May**, State of Origin free dress day.
- **Thursday 1 June**, 4W and 3B Buddy mass.
- **Friday 2 June**, 1W will lead us in our prayer assembly.
- **Thursday 16 June**, 6G and PW Buddy mass.
- **St Mark's Athletics Carnival** will be on **Friday 16 June**.
- **Year 5 & 6 Personal Development** workshop will run Tuesday –Thursday **20-22 June**.
- **School Holidays** start at 3pm on **Friday 23 June**.



### Virtue of the Week: Perseverance

#### What is Perseverance?

Perseverance is being purposeful and steadfast. It is sticking to something, staying committed, no matter how long it takes or what obstacles appear to stop you. Don't let things stop you or distract you from work you need to be doing. Keep on going!

#### You are practising Perseverance when you...

- Think before deciding to commit to someone or something.
- Pace yourself.
- Set goals and stick with them until they are completed.
- Stand by your friends and loved ones even during difficult times.

Mrs Chantale Wilson and Mrs Emma Thorne  
Acting Assistant Principals Religious Education

## Congratulations



Yesterday, Jacob Richter and Justin Lupu were selected in the Inala District Tennis team to compete in the Met West Carnival. Boys, well done and we look forward to hearing how you go at the carnival.

## Anthony Milford

As you would of heard by now, Anthony Milford, a past student from St Mark's was yesterday selected to represent Queensland for State of Origin 1 next week. Congratulations to him on behalf of the St Mark's community. I know Anthony is extremely proud of his St Mark's and Inala origins and is so humble in the success he has experienced to date in Rugby League. Not just a great day for Anthony but for all St Mark's students who can witness what we can achieve in life



in whatever path we choose to take. Anthony is a fine example for our St Mark's students and we wish him well for game 1.

## Mr Biddluph's NRL Tipping Competition - hot Tip of the week!

My Origin tip: NSW by 6  
with Anthony named Man of the Match!



## DATE CLAIMER: SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



A reminder our School Athletics Carnival will be held at St Mark's on Friday June 16. More details to follow in coming weeks

# School News

## St Mark's Uniform Shop

Open every Monday  
During School Term  
Between  
8am and 9am.

OPEN  
MONDAY  
8am - 9am

## Homework Club

Dear Parents and Students

Just a reminder that Homework Club is on Tuesday mornings from 8.00am in the Learning Support room during term time for Years 3,4,5 and 6. Mrs Shaw, Mrs Gorman, Mrs Williams and/or Mrs Winterflood will be there to help.

Kind regards,



## NOTICE TO PARENTS REGARDING COLLECTION OF DATA

Dear Parents,

In August we will again take part in the annual National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability. The aim of this national data collection is to collect quality information about school students with disability in Australia.

Every year St Mark's collects the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's level of adjustment
- the student's broad type of disability

The information collected will eventually be passed on and be provided to all governments to inform policy and programme improvement for students with disability. Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities. If you have any concerns or questions about this collection of data about your child please contact the school to talk with Mrs Williams.

# Premiers Readers Cup Challenge

## Premier's Reading Challenge 2017

St Mark's students love a challenge! This one has been set by the Premier herself and as it involves reading, we have decided to accept this challenge. The Premier's Reading Challenge is open to everyone from Prep to Year 9 with the specific challenges set out below.

Prep to Year 2 – to read and/or experience 20 books

Years 3 and 4 – to read 20 books

Year 5 to 9 – to read 15 books

Reading plays an important part in students' lives during their school years and beyond. It allows children to actively engage their imagination and open up a world of educational opportunities.

The reading period for the 2017 Premier's Reading challenge is from now until the 25th of August. Students will be given their school reader record form over the next couple of days. If you have any questions, please come and see me.

Thank you for your support!

Cheryl Waites

Primary Learning Leader



Department of Education and Training

# 2017 Premier's reading challenge

Get  
involved!

Prep to  
Year 9

Early  
childhood  
centres

Prep – Year 9 student reading period • 15 May – 25 August 2017

Early childhood centre participation period • 14 – 25 August 2017

Register now at [www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge)

Principal partner



Program partners



Supporting partners



Artistic partner



Media partner

