### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th February</td>
<td>Welcome Morning Tea Mary MacKillop Hall 9.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th February</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th February</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th February</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Liturgy</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th February</td>
<td>Opening School Mass 9am, Cathedral</td>
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<td>19th February</td>
<td>Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin</td>
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### Prayer

1. 2. 3 we sit quite still and softly say, Thank you for our meal today.
2. God bless our cook, our teachers, our mums and dads and all of us.
3. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
   Amen

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Dear families,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new families to St Mary’s Catholic Primary School Community of Learners and welcome back our returning families.

All children have an allocated locker and mail pocket in their sign in rooms—either Joeys or Kangaroos. Please ensure you check your child(ren)s pockets each day for newsletters, receipts or notes.

We have just had a new gate installed on Cavenagh Street with a push button lock. This gate has been installed to ensure there is no unauthorized access and that your children are safe and secure. If visitors are coming to pick your children up, please advise them to go through the front office in Lindsay Street.

There is a Welcome Morning tea for all St Mary’s families on Friday 5th Feb at 9.15am following the school assembly. Please come along and meet other families.

Miss Kendy 😊

**Joeys:**

A big welcome to the start of 2016 school year. Miss Anna-lea will be away for the first week and will be back for Feb 8th. The Joeys group for this year has lots of new and exciting things to look forward to.

This term we will be focusing on “all about me” and “my family”. The children will be discussing who they live at home with? What their house is like? Do they have any pets?

For now there will be no set days for children to bring show and tell in. If children have something they would like to share with the group they are highly encouraged to do so. We discourage children from bringing toys from home as they can cause conflict and the toys may get lost or broken. Show and tell is a great way for building up children’s confidence and social and language skills.

As the term progresses we will started to talk about the letters in the alphabet and the sounds they make. Also we will be making a herb garden with Miss Sethu.

Chinese New Year is on the Monday 8th February if you have any suggestions or items at home that could help to celebrate please do bring them in.

If you have any concerns regarding your child or have any suggestions for activities, please feel free to come and have a chat with Anna-Lea at any time 😊

I look forward to working with you and your child throughout this year.

Anna-lea Higgins

**Group Leader**

**Kangaroos:**

Another year has begun and I am very excited to be working with most of your children. I am looking forward to meeting you all and starting the learning journey for 2016. Currently we are running one Kangaroo preschool session in the mornings from 8.30-11.30am each day in Room 8 at the school.

We are lucky enough to be able to use and incorporate some of St Mary’s Catholic Primary School’s great facilities into our program. We will attend whole school assemblies on a Friday morning from 8.40 and extend a welcome to you all if you would like to attend with us. We will also be visiting the school library once a week on a Wednesday, which means the children will get to borrow books to bring home and enjoy.

Your child will just need to bring a waterproof bag labelled with their names (something as easy as a Coles or Woolworth shopping bag is fine). The children will also attend a weekly music session with Mrs Wilmore in the Music Room.

I will endeavour to keep you updated with what we are learning about in our classroom. If you have any questions or queries please feel free to let me know. I am looking forward to meeting you all and working with you throughout the year.

Thanks,

Kendy

Early Childhood Teacher

Assistant Director

From all of us at St Mary’s Community of Learners have a wonderful month! 😊
Learning at COL in the month of January...

Love to learn!

Shapes and bugs

Learning Time

Team work Story Telling

Drawing our family

Hand prints!

Outdoor time!

Chinese New Year Lanterns

First week at Kangaroos!