WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

It has been a very exciting week for our new Kindergarten students. I have been into classrooms and the playground and have seen what engaging activities they have been involved in. Thank you to Mrs Smith, Mrs Judd, Mrs Rymills and Mrs Taylor for their dedication and organisation around our Kindergarten program. School starts at 9am and finishes at 3pm. Please make sure your child is ready at lines to walk in at 9am, as classroom routines and learning starts at this time.
STAFFING
Mrs Parrello is on leave for the next two weeks. Miss Bishop will be the contact person for Stage 3 during this time. We wish Mrs Parrello an enjoyable break.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
On Thursday we held our annual swimming carnival at Ripples Leisure Centre. All competitors were enthusiastic, supportive and swam BRILLIANTLY! A huge thank you must go to all of our FABULOUS families, also, Mrs Parrello and Mr Morgan for their help and encouragement. Apart from the grey clouds, there was a lot of splashing but more importantly there were many laughs. Our students proved to be quite creative with the invention of new swimming strokes; however, I don’t feel we will be seeing any of these strokes at the next Olympics. Congratulations to all children who did compete. Children selected for our District team will compete at the St Marys District Carnival on Friday 6 March at Mt Druitt Pool.
PLANNING AT ST MARYS NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL – UPDATE

At St Marys North Public School we have been engaging our students, staff and school community in gathering information to help us plan for the next three years. We used three focus questions to help us gathering information. The school also used NAPLAN and other data, in conjunction with the focus questions, to add to information already gathered. As mentioned in earlier newsletters feedback would be provided.

Students, staff and the school community were all asked the same three questions.

- What do you value at St Marys North?
- What are your hopes and dreams for your child or children in 2015 and beyond?
- If you could do things differently (or had a magic wand) what would you like to see happen differently that would make a difference for our school?

Students were given the opportunity to answer the focus questions by drawing pictures or writing their comments. Staff participated and gave their ideas and thoughts, through teacher professional learning afternoons during the earlier part of this term. As you are aware the school community was asked to participate via a survey monkey that was linked to our Facebook page and class blogs. Included below are the common threads and some comments from students, staff and the school community.

An information update was in the last Newsletter, for 2014, providing feedback on the survey. Unfortunately some of the information was left out. It is included below.

What do you value at St Marys North?

Students: Teachers; friends; play equipment; canteen; computer lab.
“I like that we have awards and science.” “Times tables, maths, spelling everything!”
“I like St Marys North because I like to learn.”
Parents: Friendly environment; good communication; extra-curricular activities; school spirit.
“The extra help the students receive.” “Helpful, caring staff.” “Good communication.”
Staff: Quality education; global citizens; community involvement.

What are your hopes and dreams for your child or children in 2015 and beyond?

Students: TAFE, College, University; Sporting/Artistic careers; becoming adults and having their own families.
“I want to be a scientist” “I want to be a zookeeper”
Parents: Learning new and exciting thing; more challenges; shelter; achieving educational goals; successful citizens; confident, happy and well balanced ; learning beyond primary school.
“My children excel in their hopes and dreams.” “To learn new and exciting things and be challenged.”
Staff: Inspired life-long learning; build staff capacity; flexibility.

If you could do things differently (or had a magic wand) what would you like to see happen differently that would make a difference for our school?

Students: More play equipment – pool; bigger classrooms; canteen open daily, interest groups.
“I will change school into cupcakes”
Parents: New canteen; undercover walkways; help with understanding curriculum; update buildings.
“New buildings.” “More covered walkways.”
“More school events, out of school hours, so working parents can help and connect with the school.”
Staff: Flexibility; students passionate about learning; risk taking learners; open two way communication.
MEET THE TEACHER AFTERNOON TEA
On Wednesday 11 February all parents are invited to stay for an afternoon tea under the Hall COLA. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and have a chat. Please come along and join us.

KINDERGARTEN STARTING AND FINISHING TIMES
A note went home on Wednesday 4 February informing Kindergarten parents of classes for 2015. The note also included information on starting and finishing times for Kindergarten. From Monday 9 February, Kindergarten students will commence school at 9.00 am and finish at 3.00 pm.

VEGIE PATCH
At the end of last year 1S grew some vegetables in our school garden. The spinach that was planted is now ready to harvest and will be sold next Tuesday before school at our school garden for $1.00 a small bunch. Money raised will be used to purchase more seeds.

BOOK CLUB
The first Book Club for 2015 closes on Monday 16 February. Please remember to write your child’s name and class on the order form, put it in an envelope with the correct money and drop it into the office before that date.

EIGHT WAYS TO GET YOUR KIDS ORGANISED
Are you ready for morning madness, late assignments, yesterday’s half-eaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely.

BE CREATIVE AT ST MARYS NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL: JOIN OUR MOSAIC PROJECT “EVERY FACE HAS A PLACE”
Parents, families and friends,
You are invited to join us in a creative project, run at our school by The Song Room.

It’s free! And...
- You will meet other parents and people in your community,
- you will learn new skills in workshops and
- you will design and make a mosaic with a professional artist.
Please come for our first meeting on Tuesday 10th February at 2pm.
We will meet at the flag pole at school, then have a hot drink and cake.
Alison, from Song Room, will talk to us about the project and set a time for us to start to be creative together!
SMART FOODS TO BOOST LEARNING
Mother Nature is full of foods that help us think and feel better. What do you give your child to help them think more clearly, and enhance concentration and memory?

PLAYGROUND AWARDS – Week 2
Follow Teacher’s Instructions

KJ  Start next week
KR  Start next week
KT  Start next week
1B  Tyler-John Young
1C  Daniel Fuller
1L  Ryan Rich
1SB Ian Geraldz
2D  Clive Nicholson
2W  Riley Gordon
2/3B Johanna Christiansen
3P  Isabella Nakov
3R  Kiera Dunn
4McB  Jayden De Celis
4M  Hussein Moslimani
4S  Nathan Boulter
S3A Laura Baker
S3B Mitchell Donald
S3M Jayden Parker
S3R Jesse Barnes

KIDS MATTER

VALUE AWARDS
Week 1 – Honesty
Week 2 – Fairness (including Social Justice)

KJ  Start next week
KR  Start next week
KT  Start next week
1B  Emma Hobson
1C  Peyton Hemi
1L  Cody Martin
1SB Makayla Haak
2D  Taylah Salt
2W  Leilani Siafolau
2/3B Adam Bartlett
3P  Simon Ankuma
3R  Tema Yates
4McB  Kimani Tautolo
4M  Hayleigh Hathaway
4S  Logan Wood
S3A Kaitlyn Pettit
S3B Clarissa Alderton
S3M Rose Lee Spiteri
S3R Tiffany Flack

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER HARD COPY REQUEST
Just a reminder, that our newsletter will be available on our school website and Facebook page. If you would like to receive a printed copy as well please fill out the form below and return to the school office. You can also notify the office by phone or in person.

TO ST MARYS NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL:
I ____________________________ would like to receive a family printed copy of the school newsletter.
I nominate my child ___________________________ of class ________ as the person who will be provided with this printed copy.

Signed ____________________________ Date: ____________________

(Parent / Guardian)
BJP Physie

has 120 years of history and knowledge behind us, creating exciting and innovative dance and exercise routines for girls and women.

We are a non-profit organisation with clubs all over Australia, offering optional competitions for teams and individuals as well as performance opportunities for all.

You can start physie at any age, from 3 to 73, and one of the best things is that mums and daughters can both take part and share the joy of physie!

So get involved and phone us today for your nearest club.


epean Physie
Kim Annesley
0403587262

Phone
www.physicalculture.com.au

North St Marys Community OOSH now offers Before School Care

We will be operating this great new service from 6.30am to 8.30am each school morning starting day 1 of term 1.

We will provide breakfast, fun activities, homework help, and will escort your child to the school playground at 8.30am.

Contact the North St Marys Community OOSH Coordinator on
nsmpcoosh@pnc.com.au or 9623 0331 for more information.

We are CGB rebate approved.
Tuning in to Kids
Emotionally Intelligent Parenting
A 6 session parenting program for parents of children aged 3-12 years

Would you like to learn how to:
• be better at talking with your child?
• be better at understanding your child?
• help your child learn to manage their emotions?
• help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
• teach your child to deal with conflict?

Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence. Children with higher emotional intelligence:
• have greater success with making and keeping friends
• have better concentration at school
• are more able to calm down when upset or angry
• tend to have fewer childhood illnesses.

Where: North St Marys Neighbourhood Centre,
Cnr Debrincat Avenue and Oleander Road, Nth St Marys

When: 6 weeks on Tuesdays, starting 17 February 2015
10:30am-12:30pm

Facilitators: Kathy, St Clair Community Health on ph 9834 0500
Virginia, St Marys Community Health on ph 9833 6800

Cost: Free

Register by contacting The Central Referral Service on 1800 222 608

NORTH ST MARYS NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.

FREE WOMENS PROGRAM:

Life Experience Counts

FREE 5 week course for women to unlock your hidden skills and talents and explore employment and study options.

FREE CHILDCARE PROVIDED***

TUESDAYS STARTING
11/2/2015-17/3/2015
TIME: 10AM-12.30PM
INFORMATION SESSION TUESDAY
10/2/2015 10AM

North St Marys Neighbourhood Centre
Cnr Debrincat Ave & Oleander Rd North St Marys

To register or for more information please call Simone on 9673 3908 or email: workers@pnc.com.au
***Childcare places limited.
Junior Indoor Cricket

STARTING Thursday 19th MARCH 2015
- Thursdays and Fridays U/8’s, U/10’s, U/12’s, U/14s and U/16s
- Times from 4:20, 5:10, 6:00 and 6:50pm
- 6 a side
- U/8- U/16- Boys and Girls
- $7 per game per child. A free team shirt when registering!
- Individuals and teams welcome!
- Register any Thursday or Friday 3-6:30pm from January.

Where to Find Us:
20 Forthorn Place
St Marys NSW 2760
www.stmarysindoorsports.com.au
info@stmarysindoorsports.com.au

WHEN YOU PLAY INDOOR CRICKET AT OUR CENTRE $5 FROM YOUR REGO IS DONATED BACK TO YOUR OUTDOOR CLUB!

Junior Winter Indoor Soccer

STARTING MONDAY 20th April 2015
- Times from 4:30, 4:55, 5:20 and 5:55pm
- 5 A SIDE
- U/6- U/16- Boys and Girls
- $7 per game per child
- Individuals and teams welcome!

ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS: January 2015

Where to Find Us:
20 Forthorn Place
St Marys NSW 2760
www.stmarysindoorsports.com.au
info@stmarysindoorsports.com.au