FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Christmas Performance and School Christmas Party
We look forward to seeing all families at our Christmas performance in the School Hall on Thursday 15th December at 5pm followed by a Christmas Picnic in the school grounds. Tables and Chairs will be set up in the handball playground. Please bring your own picnic and drinks.

Student Reports
Student reports will be emailed today. I would like to commend the teachers for the time and effort that has gone into the preparation of the student reports. I know you will congratulate the children on their successes and I encourage you to support them in areas where effort needs improvement. Please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher if you wish to discuss any aspect of the report.

Last day of term for students in 2016
The last day of Term for students this year is Friday 16th December. The whole school will be attending our Thanksgiving Mass at Maria Regina Catholic Church Avalon commencing at 9:15. We do hope you will be able to join us. Children will come to school as usual and go over to the Mass with their class teacher. If your child is going home after the Mass please sign them out at the school office.

Assessment Days
Friday 27th and Monday 30th January 2017 will be assessment days for all students in years 1-6. Assessment times can be booked online through School Interviews. Please see how to book online at the end of newsletter.

First Day 2017
The first day of school for Years 1-6 will be on Tuesday 31st January. Kindergarten’s first day will be Thursday 2nd February.

Parent Calendar 2017
The Parent Calendar for 2017 will be emailed early next week. We try to include as many dates as possible. Please check weekly newsletters for any additional dates. Updated calendars will also be available on the school website www.mradbb.catholic.edu.au

Teaching Staff 2017
Kindergarten Miss Caroline Mulvenna
Year 1 Mrs Angela Westerway Mon –Thurs/ Fri Mrs Rebecca Billing
Year 2 Mrs Alexis Conn
Year 3 Mrs Lynne Pike /Mrs Cathy Penning
Year 4 Mrs Caitlin Remeeus - Assistant Principal
Year 5/6 Earth Mrs Jane Labone - Religious Education Coordinator
Year 5/6 Ocean Mr Grant Colquhoun
Learning Support Mrs Chris King
Art/REC Release Mrs Cathy Penning
AP Release Mrs Rebecca Billing
PE Mrs Stephanie Munro

I would like to thank Alison Jarman for sharing her teaching expertise at Maria Regina this year. Alison has been on a temporary contract and has taken up another temporary contract for 2017 at St Joseph’s, Narrabeen. We thank Alison for her dedication and wish her well in her new position.
STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2017
We are pleased to announce our student leaders for 2017. All students in Year 6 next year will take on a leadership role in the following teams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wellbeing Team</th>
<th>Arts Team</th>
<th>IT Team</th>
<th>ECO Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joey</td>
<td>Sienna</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>Sophie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armelle</td>
<td>Xander</td>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Manon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evan</td>
<td>Maxine</td>
<td>Jayden</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stellarose</td>
<td>Ethan</td>
<td>Raph</td>
<td>Danny</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Congratulations to our School Captains for 2017:
Sophie and Charlie

Congratulations to our Vice Captains for 2017:
Manon and Evan

Congratulations to our Colour House Captains for 2017:
Gold: Sienna
Green: Kyle
Red: Joey

Congratulations to our Band Captains for 2017:
Jayden and Ethan

Outstanding Sports Achievement Awards
On Tuesday evening at the Broken Bay Primary Sports Awards Josh Kerr (Year 4) was one of the elite athletes to receive an award for his achievement in Swimming and Athletics. Josh represented NSW in the School Sports Australian Swimming Championships in Darwin where he won a gold medal in the 10yrs 50m breaststroke and 2 silver medals in the 100m breaststroke and 4 x 50 m medley relay. Josh also was selected for Broken Bay athletics.

Presenting the awards was ex Maria Regina student Dylan Macallister. Dylan was in the Socceroos squad in 2009 and has also played for Rockdale City Suns, Sydney Olympic, Central Coast Mariners, Welling Phoenix and also Norwegian clubs SK Brann, Lyn and Hong Kong Club Eastern Salon.

Condolences
Our condolences are with the Harding family on the recent death of Tamara’s father, Graham Sloper. Graham was a strong supporter of Maria Regina and regular visitor to school celebrations. Graham also played an important part in our ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies at school. Our thoughts and prayers are with Danni, Tamara and Adrian, Vaughan, Isabeau, Xavier and Armelle.

Last Newsletter for 2016
On behalf of the staff of Maria Regina I would like to thank everyone for their outstanding support this year. I would especially like to thank the P and F Team and all the class parents for their wonderful work and effort that makes our community so special. I wish everyone a very happy, safe and peaceful Christmas break and look forward to working with our wonderful school community in 2017.
Christmas Eve Mass

Sam Browne is directing the music at the Christmas Eve Mass this year and she would like to invite any students who would love to come and sing in the **choir** for the Mass and also anyone would like to be involved in the **nativity** play.

The choir will be practising the music at 4pm on the day until the start of the Mass at 6pm.

The nativity rehearsals will be:

- Sunday 19th Dec at 10am
- Saturday 24th Dec 10am

Please contact Sam either by email or mobile with your details (name and age) and what you'd like to be involved in. [sammeebrowne@hotmail.com](mailto:sammeebrowne@hotmail.com) Mobile: 0401 343 569

Ex student achievements

We have had some very positive feedback that ex – students of Maria Regina attending Mater Maria, St Augustine’s and Brigidine have featured prominently at award presentations and in gaining leadership positions for 2017.
We are pleased to announce our student leaders for 2017. All students in Year 6 next year will take on a leadership role in the following teams. Mrs Caitlin Remeeus

On Monday 5th December our Year 6 students guided our Year 5 students in a leadership reflection. They discussed their leadership roles and assisted and guided our Year 5 students to create goals for our 2017 leadership teams.

Our Year 5 students completed a leadership workshop with Mrs Gee and Mrs Remeeus to acknowledging their strengths, gifts, talents and leadership qualities. It was a successful day. We are very excited about next year’s leadership plans.

On Thursday morning Father George and our year six parents joined our student body for a special liturgy to unveil and bless our new flag pole and Aboriginal flag kindly donated by the current Year 6 students and their families.

Year 6 message to our students:
This year you may have seen the lighthouse on the back of our Year six T-Shirts. It's been our inspiration to lead you all this year to shine. As a school, we have the ability to take an ordinary moment and make them shine. We hope this gift reminds you to keep shining. In Christianity, the Sun is a symbol of Christ. Within you is the "light of a thousand suns" - so let your light shine!

The Aboriginal flag is divided horizontally into halves. The top half is black and the lower half red. There is a yellow circle in the centre of the flag.

The meanings of the three colours of the flag are:
- Black - represents the Aboriginal people of Australia
- Yellow circle - accounts for the Sun, the giver of life and protector
- Red - represents the red earth, the red ochre used in ceremonies and Aboriginal peoples' spiritual relation to the land.
Third Sunday of Advent

On the third Sunday of Advent we light the third candle on the Advent wreath, the pink candle, the candle of joy. We hear readings that talk of rejoicing that salvation is near at hand. We are reminded that Jesus can work through us to be present to others, especially those in need. It is easy and natural for us to think about ourselves at this time of year, however a greater joy comes from giving – and not just in a material sense, but also to include those in need in our prayers.

Christmas Hampers

Thankyou to our class parents and their helpers who came to wrap the Christmas Hampers ready for collection next week. A huge thankyou to every family who donated gifts and food for the hampers. Your generosity is amazing.

Canteen Closed Friday

The canteen will be CLOSED on Friday 16th of December. NO online ordering or over the counter sales.
Dear Parents,
On Friday 27th January and Monday 30th January, 2017 teachers will be carrying out individual maths assessments.

Students in Years 1—6 are asked to come to school at an allocated time and then return home after completing the assessment with their teacher.

The assessments take approximately 30 minutes and parents may wait in the school grounds or undercroft areas. Please arrive 10 minutes before your allocated assessment time.

You can now book your assessment time online to ensure a time that suits your family best.
Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions

When you get to “Choose Teachers” – each class will have two options – e.g. Year 1 A and Year 1 B. If you cannot find a suitable time in A, look in B…etc. There will be more than one teacher carrying out interviews at the same time for each class.

Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

asp2b

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

If you are unable to access the online interviews please contact the office and an appointment will be made for you.