The Year of Mercy, decreed by Pope Francis, will draw to a close on the 20th November. Our class had the opportunity to visit the ‘Mercy on the Move’ artworks displayed in the hall and church during the past week. The artwork focused on the theme of mercy, as depicted in stories from the bible or through various role models who exemplified mercy in their lives. The children expressed their feelings about the art by writing on mini whiteboards and responding creatively to produce their own art.

**Xavier** – I liked the story of Bartimaeus the blind man because after meeting Jesus, he could see not only with his eyes but with his heart as well. He showed love by looking after others.  

**Ruhara** – My favourite painting was of Nelson Mandela because it filled my heart with love when I heard his story. He cared for others and wanted them to experience justice and fairness. He stood up for others no matter what bad things they did to him.  

**Harrison** – I liked the big mustard tree. It was a giving tree to all the birds, humans and other creatures. We should be giving like this tree.  

**Taylah** – I felt happy viewing the painting of Mother Teresa. Her eyes are the light in the darkness. She has a loving heart, especially for the poor. I’m glad she became a saint.
Dear Parents and Carers,

In all of my experience as principal in the schools that I have worked, I have made it a practice to give students, parents and staff some certainty about the following year by ensuring that we plan early when forming classes and year groupings. This is to ensure that we give as much time for all in our school community time to transition into the new school year.

Every year each school in our diocese is allocated a staffing quota which is based on enrolment numbers received at the census conducted in August of each year. This year our school was heavily supplemented by the Catholic Schools Office and we are very appreciative of the support received. However, this now means that our staffing will be reduced to align with the Diocesan Staffing formula. This then impacts on the way in which we are able to arrange class groupings for 2017 and staffing of these classes. I have written to the CSO seeking supplementary funding for staffing but so far have not been met with a positive response.

We are currently in the process of finalising staffing for 2017 and will be in a place to announce our class/year groupings and teachers in the next 2 weeks.

When planning classes, consideration is given to estimated enrolments, Kindergarten intakes, class numbers and gender balance. When allocating students to classes, teachers take into account friendship groups, special needs, learning styles and balance of class groupings. I think it is useful for students, particularly those that get a bit anxious to know what class, what teacher and what classmates they will have in advance so they can relax over the holidays and start the year with confidence. The overwhelming response I get from parents is that this is valued and appreciated. What I ask in return is that parents talk positively with their child about 2017. We will have the opportunity for students to spend time towards the end of this year with their teacher for 2017. Parents/Caregivers are able to provide information that may be useful during the class placement process if they wish. While we cannot accept parents/caregivers requesting a specific teacher, we are happy to receive comments regarding your child's specific learning needs, friendship groups, social and emotional needs and any other information which could have an impact on your child’s future class placement here at St Brigid’s. It is important not to indicate to your child that you have provided information thereby leading them to assume the information provided will necessarily be the outcome. Information will only be considered if it is in writing. Please place in an envelope marked Confidential/Class Placement and leave it at the Front Office. Alternatively you can email me at ahunter@lism.catholic.edu.au

Information must be in by the due date Friday, November 25 (Week 7, Term 4). You can be assured that we do spend a great deal of time and effort in working out class/stage groups and placing children into appropriate class groups. Please note that it is the Principal’s responsibility to make final decisions on classes and student placement.

We are very fortunate here at St Brigid’s with the quality staff (both teaching and non teaching) that we have working with the students of our school. All staff are extremely professional in their role and are committed to ensuring that the learning program at St Brigid’s Primary, Kyogle is rigorous, contemporary and is setting our students up for future success.

SPORT SHIRT SURVEY: Many thanks to Lismore Shopping Square for lending us the 2 “students” who are modelling the proposed sport shirts this week. I encourage all parents to have a look, either in the front office or via the Facebook page and make your selection. The shirt will be phased in over a 2 year period. The “students” will be on display up until next Wednesday 9th November.

God bless and have a wonderful week,

Tony

Tony Hunter
Principal
Curriculum

SWIMMING FOR FRIDAY SPORT
Today every child will receive a note regarding swimming for Friday sport.
K 2 will finish their two week intensive block of swimming this Friday. K 2 will join the rest of the school for swimming as part of Friday sport.

GEOGRAPHY—STAGE 1:
The students have been looking at neighbouring countries. In studying New Guinea, they made colourful Birds of Paradise, which can be found in the forests of New Guinea.

KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION: Can’t believe we have now completed 3 of the 6 Kindergarten transition sessions. Our 2017 Kindergarten students are having a wonderful time during this transition period and are forming terrific partnerships with their “Buddies” from our current Year 4 group. A big THANK YOU to Mrs Vicki Jansen and Mrs Paula O'Reilly for their work in co-ordinating this.

The next sessions are set down for Thursday 10th Nov (12 to 1:30pm), Tuesday 15th Nov (1:30pm to 3pm) and Thursday 24th Nov (1:30pm to 3pm). I would strongly recommend all parents/carers to attend our next parent information session that coincides with the 15th November transition time on “How I Can Assist My Child at Home with Maths and English”.

Mrs Condon (Assistant Principal and Leader of Curriculum) and Mrs Walters (Leader of Pedagogy) will be our facilitators for this vital information session.

Catholic Identity

EXURO: Oliver’s quote was missed last week—
“We participated in lots of activities which made us stop and think about our faith and where Jesus is in our lives. We watched videos and reflected on the challenges of being Christian in today’s world. The message I got was that we need to show love to others – helping can be contagious – just because we are young doesn’t mean we can’t make a difference in the world.” (Oliver)

CRAZY SOCKS DAY: NEW TOTAL raised for the Catholic Missions is $175.00. A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported the day.

MERCY WORKS: Thank you to Kindy who last week had a shoe shine session to offer help to others in our school community. Mr Hunter was very impressed with his shiny leather boots!!

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT: I encourage all families to come along to the Parish Movie Night to be held on Saturday 12th November. A wonderful way to meet up with other parish families and enjoy a meal, a chat and a good catch up whilst the children watch the movie. Please refer to last week’s newsletter or Facebook page for further info. No cost involved. Look forward to seeing as many as possible on Saturday week.

ST MARY’S COLLEGE, CASINO: Orientation Days for 2017 Year 7 students on Friday, 25/11/2016 (all day) and Friday, 9/12/2016 (until 12.25pm). St Mary’s College is looking forward to welcoming new students on these days.

Community

FORUM RAFFLE
Don’t forget to send in your tickets with money to the office. If you need more tickets please contact Di Welsh.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE—Saturday, 5th November
Pat & Kelli Harley have generously donated sausages and the space at CRT to have a Sausage Sizzle. Please support this event. A flyer is included with this Newsletter. Send in the return slip by this Friday please. A big THANK YOU to the Harley family.

Weekly Spelling

Grapheme - ow

Verbs ending in -c, add -k before adding a suffix beginning with a vowel.
Eg. panic - panicked

POSITIVE PARTNERSHIPS to increase understanding of the impact of autism—please see information in Community News ►

ASSEMBLY
FRIDAY at 2.30pm
BY 1/2H
ALL WELCOME

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to
Chloe R.
and
Taylah D.

UNIFORM SHOP
Open MONDAYS (after Canteen)
2:30pm—3:15pm
All enquiries about uniforms to:
SUZIE SMITH
Phone 6632 2958
or 0422 415 520
Uniform order forms are available from the school office at any time.
SCHOOL CANTEEN
MONDAY 7th Nov: Suzie Smith & Tara Price.

Please sign in at the office before going to Canteen.
If for any reason you cannot attend on your rostered day, please swap days with another person or contact Suzie.

THANK YOU

COMMUNITY NEWS
KYOGLE FAIRY Mount FESTIVAL
17 – 19 November
Colour-in Competition
All students received an entry for this competition. All entries are to be handed in at the school office by Wednesday, 7/11/16.

KYOGLE BOWLING CLUB
The club will be holding its annual Children’s Christmas Celebration on Friday, 2nd December. Children who dine in with their parents will be treated to a free dinner. Santa will make an appearance. All welcome.

KYOGLE SWIMMING CLUB
Friday Pointscores is open to any person who can swim 12.5m or more of any stroke. Training is available weekdays from 4pm. New members most welcome.
For more information phone Annette Smith on 0412116820 or Email the club on kascescgmail.com.

POSITIVE PARTNERSHIPS to increase understanding of the impact of autism
FREE 1 day workshop for parents/carers at Kyogle Golf Club on Tuesday, 15/11/2016 from 9.15am – 3pm (registration from 8.30am). Online registrations open now. All enquiries phone 1300881971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au

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Lessons are held during school time each Tuesday
Individual lessons: $21 per lesson
Group of two: $16 per lesson
Group of three: $13 per lesson

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