Dear St Mary of the Cross Families,

It has been a busy week at St Mary of the Cross this week, even though we have had only four days. We are fast approaching the end of term one and there is much to be completed.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – DATA ANALYSIS**

Last Friday the staff spent the day delving into the data that we have collected over the testing phase of term one. Some interesting trends have been identified and these are now being worked on through planning sessions. Anne Thomas and Elizabeth Clifton form the CEO Western Area Office spent some time with staff talking through the CEO’s new Intervention Framework. The staff were also given time to analyse their own home room data and commence planning for groups within their learning communities. This was an important day and sets some benchmarks for our planning and curriculum development.

**WORKING BEE**

Our first Working Bee will be held on **Saturday, 21st March from 8.30 am – 3.00pm.**

We will be sending home the working bee expression of interest sheet again today because we had such a poor response to our first round. We need your help! There are lots of jobs to do in order to make our school (your child’s school) a better and more interesting place to be. I would urge all parents to consider making an effort, even for an hour or two, to come along and help out. We need your written commitment for planning purposes, so please return the Expression of Interest slip. If you have already volunteered for the day, there is no need to re submit the form.

**THREE WAY LEARNING CONVERSATIONS**

These will take place in the last week of school and provide an opportunity for the children to showcase some of their work over term one and also for the teacher to deliver some feedback about the children and how they have commenced this year. Teachers will also discuss and develop some goals for future learning.

A separate information sheet will come home giving details of these important conversations.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Were very successful yesterday. Photographers were very happy with the results. Photos should be delivered within a couple of weeks.
BUILDING PROGRESS
Discussions are still underway into the plans and tender for stage two of the building. We hope to report a start date to the community within the next few days.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE
Can we remind parents that school commences at 8.45am. Children should be at school no later than 8.40am.

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

EASTER RAFFLE
Thank you all for the great response in donating towards our Easter Raffle. The hampers for prizes have all been made up and are on display along with the hamper we are donating to The Food Van.

Raffle Tickets have been issued to students today to help sell five tickets each at $1 per ticket. More tickets are available for those that require them. The raffle draw will take place at group prayer on Wednesday 25th March 2015. We ask if you could please return your tickets and money to the school by Friday 20th March 2015.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE LUNCH - THURSDAY 27TH MARCH 2015
There will be a Sausage Sizzle lunch held on Thursday 27th March with students being able to pre-order a lunch pack. If you can help and volunteer your time on this day please email the P&F’s team at pfa@smocptcook.catholic.edu.au.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2015/2016
The Parents & Friends will be selling the Entertainment Books for 2015/2016 period. You will be able to purchase either the Book or the Digital Membership for smartphones. More details to be released soon about making your purchase.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT - TERM 2
The Family Movie Night will be held again at the school on Friday 22 May 2015. Please mark that in your diaries with more information to come in Term 2.

PLEASE NOTE TODAY THERE WILL BE THE FOLLOWING HARCOPY NOTES IN YOUR CHILDS BAG

- St Patricks Day - Tuesday, 17th March 2015 - Jelly Permission Note (to be returned)
- Reporting and Feedback Protocols
- Mathematics & Literacy Learning Overview - Term 1
- Working Bee - reprinted note (to be returned)
- PFA - Raffle Tickets