The purpose of this update is to inform you of a few important matters.

Firstly, the first Marian Newsletter for the year will be uploaded next Thursday afternoon 4th February. Copies of The Marian are available each week outside most of the primary classrooms next to the notice boards and also at the office.

In the mean time, the following matters are listed for your information:

**Opening Mass (Prep – Yr. 10)**

This is always a wonderful occasion when we all come together to celebrate the beginning of the school year. Many students will be formally presented with their leadership badges. Mums, dads, grandparents and carers are all invited to this very special occasion on Thursday 4th February commencing at 9.15am.

**College Swimming Sports (Yr. 3 – Yr. 10)**

The swimming sports are scheduled for Friday 5th February. Permission forms have been distributed to all students.

**Monsignor Toms’ Retirement and Farewell**

Recently Monsignor Toms announced to the Parish that he will be retiring in late February after 20 years service as Parish Priest of St Mary’s Seymour. The Parish is organising a Farewell Lunch for Mons Toms on Sunday 7th February at 12.00noon. Tickets may be purchased for this ($10 per person) through the Parish.

St Mary’s College will hold a Farewell Liturgy and Presentation for Mons on Tuesday 9th February at 10.30am in the College Hall. A morning tea will follow in the Hall.
Parent Information Night – 9th February

Last year staff reviewed our Assessment and Reporting processes. This involved reviewing the various meetings and interviews we conduct each year to inform parents and students about their achievement and progress. Accordingly, this year there will be changes to the format of the Parent Information meeting to be held on Tuesday 9th February. Next week’s Marian will explain in more detail the format of the meeting. In the mean time please mark on your calendar the important date – Tuesday 9th February.

Family Night (17th February)

Each year we kick off with a family night in the College gardens at St Mary’s, starting with a BYO Dinner or BBQ (BYO Meat). This is an opportunity for parents and carers to meet staff and for the children to have some fun together. There will be a Primary Disco and a Secondary Social. More details will follow in next week’s Marian newsletter.

Australia Day Congratulations

Congratulations are extended to new Year 7 student Isabella Hutchins who was awarded Avenel Young Australian of the Year and Strathbogie Shire Young Australian of the Year for 2016. Isabella was awarded both honours at two consecutive ceremonies in Avenel and Nagambie last Tuesday, Australia Day. This week’s edition of the Seymour Telegraph features a wonderful story about many of Isabella’s achievements. Well done Isabella!

Others Dates To Remember:

Ash Wednesday Mass – Wednesday 10th February: 9.00am in the Church.

Prayer in the Gardens

Friday 12th (8.45am)

Mr Peter Kelly
Principal

College Carnival 2016

Sunday 20th March

Donations Sought:-

Trash and Treasure Stall – any household items in reasonable condition;

Pre-Loved Clothing – any clean second hand clothing including children’s and adult’s clothing, St Mary’s uniform items, etc;

Books – for the second hand book stall;

Jams and Preserves – please keep the Carnival in mind if you have bottled excess tomatoes, jams, etc.