As part of our whole school mission, we want the children to appreciate how fortunate we all are. With all of the bad news we are exposed to, we want to focus on what we CAN do rather than have the feeling that there is nothing we can do. Each year we donate to three charities, one Local, one National and one International. This year, the ‘Year of Mercy’, we have done some extra awareness and collecting. I thank you for your support and generosity, and for helping us teach the children that there IS something we can do. Together we have raised a total of $2,833.55 and we have given gifts for the Giving Tree, and pencils to ‘Colour the World’ for students who otherwise wouldn’t have stationery. This year we achieved the following:

**INTERNATIONAL:**
- Caritas: $435, St Vincent dePaul Assist a Student 3 students @ $216.00, Grade Two 5cent collection for Cambodia: $500.55

**NATIONAL & TASMANIAN:**
- Royal Melbourne Childrens’ Hospital: $420.00, The Archbishop’s Samaritan Fund: $500.00 for Down Syndrome Tas and Autism Tas.

**LOCAL:**
- Gr 5, Sherbet for the Giving Tree gifts, $767.00, Giving tree gifts from all classes which were collected by Mr Vin Hindmarsh from St Vincent de Paul on Monday.
End of Year Concert

A wonderful evening celebrating the joy of Christmas
CHRISTMAS VIGIL CHILDREN’S MASS
Christmas is a time that we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a time the Church invites all to share love, peace, joy and hope with one another.

Fr John and the Burnie-Wynyard Parish invite the Staff, Students, Parents, Grandparents, Guardians and Friends of the Stella Maris Primary School Community, to the Christmas Vigil. This will take place at St Brigid’s Catholic Church, Wynyard on the 24th of December at 5.30pm.

The Students are encouraged to dress up or come prepared in the traditional images of angels, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, kings etc.

For those children who wish to take an active part, by acting out the Christmas story at the vigil mass, there will be a rehearsal at St Brigid’s Catholic Church, Wynyard at 5:30pm on Friday 23rd December.

2017 Term Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term One</td>
<td>9th February - 13th April, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Break</td>
<td>Good Friday 14th April - Tuesday 18th April,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Two</td>
<td>1st May - 7th July, 2017</td>
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<td>Term Three</td>
<td>24th July - 29th September, 2017</td>
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<td>Term Four</td>
<td>16th October - 20th December, 2017</td>
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Stella Maris Catholic Primary School
Christmas Raffle Winners

1st — Maddison Price
2nd — Kade Munday
3rd — Sue Morrison
4th — Amelia Wickham
5th — L Stretton
Dare To Step Out And Make A Difference
Just Like Jesus

Farewell To Our Beautiful Grade 6 Children
You Will Be Missed........
We farewell the following families from Stella Maris as their youngest child has finished Grade 6:

Agar, Askew, Best, Best, Bracken, Bryant, Clark, Clarke, Cooper, Coulson, Davies, Dobbie, Fahey, Harland, Harman, Hayes, Heycox, Johnstone, Keating, Keen, Mewengkang, O’Hara, Partridge, Pearce, Saward, Seaman,

This year has flown and what a special year it has been again. So many times I have to pinch myself that I have such a wonderful ‘job’. We all thank you for entrusting your precious children to us.

I believe that we have worked so well together, talking openly and honestly about any problems and finding solutions to these so that all of our children can flourish. We all learn from the example set by each other.

“It takes a village to raise a child”
is certainly evident here at Stella Maris.

We wish you a very Happy Christmas, full of the joy of Jesus’ birth. Enjoy your children in the holidays. We look forward to seeing you again in February 2017.