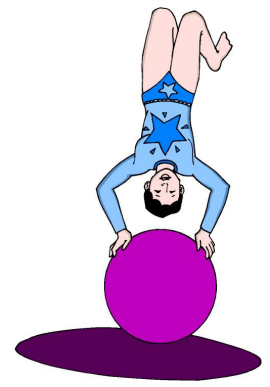




ST. MARY'S FETE NEWS



EDITION 3 😊 THANK YOU

THANK YOU

Our Secret to success



The St. Mary's Community run many events, but I have to say that the Fete is one of my personal favourites.

Fete is not just about raising funds. It's about Brining Communities together.

Our Volunteers this year were wide and varied. They consisted of many individuals and lots of groups. Each year we are lucky enough to have Volunteers from Loyola College and ex St. Mary's Students.

These Students swapped having fun on the rides for having fun serving in the Tuckshop, Spraying Hair and manning the Photo booth.

It is so refreshing to see Students selflessly giving up their time to Volunteer. We are very proud to have Kids in our Community like that. What wonderful Parents and Educators you have, to teach you to be so giving.

Thanks to the generosity of **Trish Lee** we are able to offer a prize for one lucky Junior Volunteer. The winner of the \$25 Smiggle Voucher – drawn randomly is Mia Collier. Congratulations!

Teachers at St. Mary's are one of a kind. Many teachers gave up their Saturday to help out and man stalls and others helped out in the lead up and we are very grateful for the effort you put in.

Kids Love to see their Parents involved and feel somewhat proud that their Parent is helping. Thank you to all the Parents and Grandparents that gave up time to help out. I often put the call out for someone to help here and there in the lead up to the Fete. The response was so overwhelming! As they say, many hands make light work. Thanks to the **Seona Breen** and the team at **Mabel Jones** the winner of the Senior Volunteer prize, a \$25 Café Voucher – drawn randomly is Amanda Hyde.

The Ladies!

The Ladies Auxiliary, who originally started the Fete many years ago, still have a huge role in its success.

During the year, they are busy collecting and making items to sell at Fete. They sell tickets for a huge Christmas Stocking and provide immeasurable advice, guidance encouragement to our current Committee.

A sub-committee of the Ladies Auxiliary is the Mystery Bottle Helpers. They check the content and wrap all those wonderful Mystery Bottles! ...and boy were there a lot this year! A bottle was sent home with each child and the Class to bring in the most won chips kindly donated by **RED ROOSTER GREENSBOROUGH** and a Zooper Dooper. Well done to 1D and 1G!

It's so lovely to work with these wonderful bunch of Ladies and their friends – thank you Maureen, Lucy, Angela, Kath, Judy, Maria, Maureen, Eileen, Bev, Dorothy, Jan, Joan, Margaret and Pat.

...and whilst the Ladies Auxiliary are working hard, the men all do their bit too. Big thanks to Brian and Phil for all their work with the Plant Stall.

Deck Bar – a hit!



Newcomers to the Fete Team are Prep Parents Rob Escudero and Rowena Taylor. Last year they came, they saw and decided they wanted to be a part of it! They co-

ordinated the Deck Bar with style. Wonderful prizes were on offer thanks to **NILLUMBIK CELLARS, MERCEDES MELBOURNE, SCULLI BROS and BEN'S BREW TOURS.** Cold beer, champers, cider and wine flowed from noon. ...and wine always tastes better out of a glass!

...and we must give our absolute gratitude and many thanks to Andrew Humphrey's from **INSTANT PARTY HIRE.** Andrew supplied most of the gazebos around the Fete. But that's not all! Tables, Chairs, Cool Room, Deep Fryers, Bain Marie, Fridges and the wine glasses were all donated for the day. Nothing was too much trouble for Andrew. He worked from 6am until after the mad dash to pack up before the rain hit!

We were very lucky with the weather on the day. Thanks to the weather Co-ordinator - Father Stevel! Lol. The sun was shining and what a lovely day to sit with Family and Friends and enjoy the beautiful singing from the St. Mary's Choir and Bianca Fenn School of Music who featured some very talented St. Mary's Students.

Each year we change the menu a little and Mel Mayne's Loaded Fries, were a huge hit! We were fortunate enough to have Matt Faux – Executive Chef come along and cook fries all day. I hear the gazebo on the Piazza was a barrel of laughs.

...and there was much laughter, joking and fun coming from the BBQ manned by the MaD Team. Who would have thought that sizzling sausages and flipping burgers would be so entertaining?!

Our MaD Team liaison – Amanda McKenna kept a watchful eye on things from the drinks stall, even though she was out injured! What a trouper.

Geraldine Conroy got her bake on at the crack of dawn again! The Devonshire Tea in the JKC is always a lovely way to have a rest and a cuppa with friends before heading into the Market Hall.

Shop 'til you drop!

Our aim is to cater for as many as possible tastes when inviting stallholders to our market. This year was no exception with items ranging from hand carved wood products to chiropractors, jewellery to canvas art and personalised products to vegetable peelers. A big thanks to Natasha Mills for co-ordinating and organising the stallholders on the day and running between the Hall and the Piazza – you didn't stop.

Once again the St. Mary's Community rallied and made the most delicious cakes to sell. I hope you had a chance to have a look at Janet and Rhiannon's gorgeous cake stall. It's always so beautifully presented complete with lovely fresh flowers and volunteers wearing themed aprons.

The Market Hall is always a hive of activity. Rachael had the raffle tables sorted! What a fantastic array of prizes. The winners – Paul, Mary, Lisa and Viv are certainly going to be busy enjoying all their wares! Maybe some of Rachael's good luck has rubbed off on those winners. Rachael won a car in our Combined Parishes Raffle at the beginning of the year. Tickets will again be on sale very soon. So keep a lookout for them!

The Hall is the place to be! We have ticket sellers roaming the Fete to sell lucky number envelopes and who could miss Peter McKenna on the stage, sparking in red! Thanks to **ESCUDO VISUAL BRANDING SOLUTIONS** we now have our own very own spinning wheel! ...and Peter was not afraid to use it! Peter worked the crowd and spent the whole day selling, selling, selling!

If you slipped out the side door of the Hall and headed toward the rides, you would have seen all the works from the creative volunteers. Tattoo's, face paint and of course coloured hair spray are always a favourite and Miss McHardy does a great job making this space look bright and fun!

We moved the Fairy Floss to the oval and the kids had no trouble finding it! We introduced Popcorn to the mix and Katie was in her element! Twirling and popping all day long!



Something different!



Did anyone see the car on the oval? No it wasn't vandalised. It was a creative art project! Where else can you paint an Audi and not get in trouble?! The

generosity of Zak from **WATSMITH PAINT AND PANEL** in Bundoora saw a tow truck deliver the Audi on Friday. The Students and even some Parents got creative. When that was done, the kids moved on to painting of the shells. I'm sure there are many houses around the area that are now adorned with little works of art! Thank you Mrs Ritchie.

Speaking of art, did you have a turn at the sideshows? Pat was very creative this year. Who would have thought that throwing toilet rolls into a toilet could be so entertaining?! From the toilet to the duck pond in one step! Prizes were kindly donated by **TOYWORLD GREENSBOROUGH**.

It was lovely to see Parents and Children taking a break at the Book and Toy Stall. Kathyne spent many hours of an evening and weekend sorting the books ready for sale. Books could be read, toys played with and colouring in to win the colouring competition on the mats under the gazebo.

Once again, the generosity of Trish Lee, saw Molly Egan take home a \$25 Smiggle Voucher as our random winner of the Colouring Competition.

Free sunscreen was available at the **BUNDOORA ACTION INDOOR SPORTS** Street Arena as were free hats for those that didn't bring one.

Rides! Rides! Rides! There were so many to choose from. We even had an extra attraction this year - a petting zoo! But I wonder who had more fun on the Dodgem Cars? The grownups or the kids?! It was lovely to see so many Preps and Grade 1's with their Grade 5 and 6 Buddy's sharing a ride. Thanks to Sarah Lorkin for manning the ticket booth all day. Hopefully the online process next year will save us lots of time and make it easier all round.

John Wood worked the crowd and kept everyone up to date with what was happening. I'm sure he walked about 20km that day!

Teamwork

As a Committee we are inclusive. Our aim with the Fete is to ensure that there are enough free activities. When I was speaking with a Grade 6 boy recently, he said that his Parents gave him \$20 to spend. He was so delighted with himself that he was able to take the whole \$20 home. He said, he didn't need to spend it, he was having too much fun on all the free activities!

The Fete has become quite big over the last few years and we want to thank and acknowledge the amazing and tireless work put in by the MaD Team. They are always willing to lend a hand wherever we need it - without question! From making bacon and eggs for the early volunteers, to the set up at 6am and pack up in record time this year to beat the rain - you guys are fantastic and we are truly blessed to have you all!

A special thanks to Denise Chang-Faux who lets me bounce crazy ideas off her at 2am! Brainstorming is always fun and we seem to come up with the best ideas after midnight.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to the great Fete Team - Denise Chang-Faux, Amanda McKenna Janet Laing, Kathyne Campara, Katie Field, Mel Mayne, Natasha Mills, Pat Arzenti, Rhiannon Hirschauer, Rachael Livy, Rob Escudero, Rowena Taylor, Sarah Lorkin, Mrs Greig, Mrs Ritchie and Miss McHardy. Your ideas, thought process, dedication and execution are second to none.

I've had many other schools in the area contact me and ask what the secret is to a successful Fete - and I tell them - its volunteers and team work.

I feel so lucky to have met you all and even luckier to share the journey and put smiles on faces with you.

Not only did everyone have a wonderful day, we have so far made a profit of **\$30,789.80!**

To Mrs Anderson and Father Steve, thank you both for allowing our team to be creative and having the trust in us to deliver.

Less than 350 days until the next Fete - so let's get planning!

Take care. Belinda Thomas