**PRAYING LENT**

**LORD, we ask that we be completely transformed into your mercy and to be your living reflection...**

**HELP US LORD, that our eyes may be merciful, so that we may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in our neighbours’ souls and come to their rescue.**

**HELP US LORD, that our ears may be merciful, so that we may give heed to our neighbours’ needs...**

**HELP US LORD, that our tongues may be merciful, so that we should never speak negatively of our neighbour, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.**

**HELP US LORD, that our hearts may be merciful so that we may feel all the sufferings of our neighbour.**

**May your mercy, O Lord, rest upon us.**

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**Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,**

After a lot of contingency planning late last week we were blessed with a perfect day for our Athletics Sports Day on Monday at Pedrina Park!

Thank you to Elise Couchman and Jamie Ferguson, our Sports Co-ordinators for their leadership and organisation of our day.

It was fantastic to see the students demonstrating improved skills in all events and doing their best throughout the day.

The biggest celebration for the day, besides Rosaria winning the Shield, was the outstanding sportsmanship shown by students and the amazing support of parents with age groups, events and cheering! Thank you to all for contributing to such a positive experience for everyone involved!

**Thanks for a great week! God bless you @**

**Jo-Anne**

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

**MARCH**

- **Mon 14th** Public holiday
- **Wed 16th – Fri 18th** Sacrament of Reconciliation
- **Thurs 17th** District Aths
- **Sun 20th** Family Social Afternoon & Easter Egg Hunt! 12.00 – 2.00pm @ Botanical Gardens BYO picnic lunch, drinks.
- **Mon 21st** Learning Walk!
- **Thurs 24th** Holy Week liturgy @ 11.30am
  - End Term 1
  - Early finish @ 2.15pm

**APRIL**

- **Mon 11th** Start of Term 2
- **Thurs 14th** Sacramental parent meeting – Confirmation – 7pm Dunworth Centre
  - Division Aths
- **Wed 20th** OLSEL family night!
- **Mon 25th** Public holiday
- **Wed 27th** School Advisory Council AGM
Attachments to this week’s Newsletter:
1. Learning Walk flyer
2. Week 5 Prayer card

Advance Notice:
- Wed 20th April OLSEL Family Night
  - 6.30 Sausage sizzle
  - 7.00 Meeting
- Fri 6th May Mothers’ Day High Tea
- Fri 29th July Grandparents’ Day
- Fri 2nd Sept Fathers’ Day lunch
- Fri 7th Oct Mission Day

Learning Walk
Parents and friends are invited to join us on Monday 21st March for our first ‘Learning Walk’! This is an opportunity to view and talk about learning throughout the school. The morning runs from 9.30 – 10.30am and includes a morning tea with the chance to ask questions about learning and our space. This activity is designed to build our connections between school and home which supports student learning and attitudes to school. See information contained in the newsletter.

Sacramental Program
Our Sacramental children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time next week. Please support these children, and their families, and remember them in your prayers as they continue to prepare for this very important step along their faith journey. Everyone is welcome to come along to these celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings at 6 pm at St Mary’s Church.

Uniform
Term 2 brings the changeover from summer to winter uniform, depending on the weather. As the weather is quite unpredictable at the start of the term, please gauge the forecast yourself and make an informed decision on the uniform you will send your children to school in for the start of term 2. Notice will be provided in the newsletter next term regarding an official change to winter uniform.
Please remember that nail polish, temporary tattoos and jewellery (other than studs or small sleepers and watches) are not permitted.

Holy Week Liturgy
Parents, carers and friends are invited to join us on Thursday 24th March at 11.30am in the Learning Street. This will be a prayerful close to our activities during the last week of school as we recall and remember the story of Holy Week.

Project Compassion – Caritas Australia
As Pope Francis says “Education is an act of hope”, so this year Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning, and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.
Hopefully your family has been working hard at filling your Project Compassion box during Lent. If you can please return your boxes to school by Thursday 24th March we will be able to send money raised off to Caritas Australia to support their work.
For more information please visit www.caritas.org.au

THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!

Grade Prep
Prep Teddy Day - On Monday while Years 1-6 were having a great time at Athletics, the Preps were also having great fun back at school. We brought along our teddies for the day and used them for Teddy Maths. We had to find things that were taller, shorter, wider and thinner than our teddies. We also sorted them into different groups such as colour, teddy type, and size. As a challenge we lined up our teddies from smallest to biggest across the learning street.

Grade 1/2
In Grade 1/2 we have been preparing for Lent by making Lenten flowers. On each flower we wrote all the ways we can prepare for Easter. They look colourful and beautiful. Holly Rook
On Thursday the Grade Preps, Ones and Twos went to Mass. We sang songs which we had practised at school. Noreen told us the story of Jesus’ life. Hazel Clarkson
On Wednesday’s, Noreen and Molly visit our classroom and help us with our reading. Molly likes listening to our books in the Community Space. Sophie Kuilboer

Grade 3/4
Ride to School Day
Zoom, zoom! I rode my bike super fast. Friday the 4th of March was ride to school day. I came with my purple bike and my hot pink helmet. I really quickly got out of the car, got out my bike and rode to where my friends were waiting. Everyone gathered around and listened to one of the teachers from Monivae, then it was time to start riding. I was one of the people from St. Mary’s at the back.
When we got to Monivae I grabbed an orange flavoured juice box and drank it quickly so I could ride down the steep, wavy and long road. After the road finished I went to the bike shed and put my bike into the bike rack and ran to the basketball court to play Chicken Run.
I had a fabulous time on my bike. Isabelle Schaap
**Athletic Day**

Ready, set, go, the gun went off. On Monday the 7th of March, our whole school went to Pedrina Park for Athletics Day. First I went into my house group tent where our house captains were busy putting up decorations, putting zinc on everyone and red hair spray in peoples hair. Next we had the 80m hurdles. After I got over the third hurdle I face planted on the ground, but I got back up and went again. I didn’t win anything but I tried my best. Then we had long jump, we got about 3 turns and that was it. I had heaps of fun at this event. After that, we had 400m sprint, it was a long way but I got there in the end. Then we had shot put and I tried my absolute best. Next we had a 200m sprint, it was so much fun. After that we had discuss and 100m sprint. I didn’t get anything in either but I had heaps of fun. Next we had relays and we got first place. After that we got on the bus and went back to school for presentations. The age champions in my age group were Grace, Bridget and Hugh. Sports day was heaps of fun, I can’t wait until next year. **Ava Sobey**

**Golf Clinic**

Bash! My golf club hit the tee and my golf ball. It was the 2nd of March and a man called Tony Collier from Golf Victoria came to our school to give us some golf lessons. We walked out from our classroom and to the trees where Tony was waiting for us. First Tony said that we should choose someone that was the same height as us, Bailey was my partner. Next we walked to the oval where it was set up for us. That’s where we played golf. At the end we had a competition. We all had an excellent time. **Liam Handreck**

**Grade 5/6**

In Grade Five/Six, the purple Daily 5 group have been learning about writing arguments to a particular audience. Can you pick which arguments are written to parents and which are written to kids? Also, in winter you can play board games with your family. Do you ever wish you could spend more time with your family? A board game is a great way to get that valuable quality family time you treasure. You can get your children off their devices and you’ll be able to find out what’s going on in your gorgeous kids’ lives. Winter is a great time to have the family time you love. **Saskia Schaap**

Also, in winter you can play board games with your family. While it’s freezing cold outside you can be happily entertained in the warmth of your own home. You can be beating your smug siblings in Monopoly and be gleefully rubbing it in their face all day long. Board games are a super fun way to spend your winter with friends and family. **Oliver Hayes**

Also, in winter you can play board games with your family. Do you ever think that there is nothing to do on a rainy day? Well you wrong, a board game is a great way to entertain yourself! Especially when you beat your annoying sibling in Trouble and rub their face in it. I full-heartedly believe you can be entertained on a winter’s day playing a board game. **Amalie Rowe**

Also, in winter you can play board games with your family. Do you ever think your kids are always staring into the TV on rainy days? Well there’s a solution, a board game. It is a great way to spend valuable quality time with your adoring family. It’s also a great time to talk to your kids and they will answer you. I think playing board games in winter is a great way to bring you family together. **Amalie Rowe**

**ICAS Entries**

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2016

ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3 to 12 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

If you are interested in your child participating in these assessments please collect an entry form from the Office. Entries together with fees are due by Friday March 18. Late entries will not be accepted. We hope to see many students taking on these challenges this year.

If you have any queries about these competitions please contact me in person, by phone or email. **Chris Minney**

**The Sports Catch Up**

**School Athletics**

Thank you everyone for an amazing Athletics Day! We certainly proved T.E.A.M work - Together Everyone Achieves More! It was absolutely amazing to see so many supporters at our school athletics! What a fantastic community day for our school; fantastic sporting skills, fantastic encouragement and fantastic support! Thank you everyone for making Athletics Day a wonderful day. Together we provided all of our students the chance to compete in a competitive, yet supportive environment. Primary school athletics days allow all students the opportunity to try all the different track and field events an athletics day has to offer, regardless of ability. They are also days many students remember fondly for years. So thank you to everyone who supported our Athletics Day in any way, from encouraging your child in the days leading up to the event or by cheering on your child on the day. This year we once again saw many close Age Champion totals, with a 1 point difference in many age groups! Well done to our Champions and to everyone who showed good sportsmanship, tried their hardest and had fun!
Thank yous!
I would like to especially thank our outstanding Monivae Helpers, who are completing their Sport and Recreation certificate. These students displayed terrific initiative and were extremely helpful in the smooth running of our athletics day. Thank you to Jim Hall, Dylan Godwin, Bayley Wilson, Hayden Noske, Callum McNabb, Robert McClure and Daniel Lynch. Thank you to the teachers, aides and office staff for running the events, timing and tallying the results, your support is always truly appreciated. Thank you to the parents/grandparents/carers who walked age groups around, assisted in set up and/or helped on events, your role was vital to our wonderful day. I truly hope you enjoyed watching your aspiring athletes! A very special thank you to Candace Bianchin, Alan Kearney and Matt Dunn for their generous help throughout the day from setup until pack up. A tremendous thank you to the Sobey Family, Deb Fitzgerald and the Little Athletics club for the use of marquees and sporting equipment. A few final thank yous to Caroline Collins for her superior starter skills again this year, Cathy Ferguson who once again completed the recording role, we appreciate your magnificent expertise, and to Kris Fox who took on the challenge of learning from the master!

Sportsmanship Awards

| Grade One Boy | Jesse Knight |
| Grade One Girl | Taylor Jackson |
| Grade Two Boy | Lochlann Bianchin |
| Grade Two Girl | Arbella Colliton |
| 9 Year Boy | Charlie Fitzpatrick |
| 9 Year Girl | Bella Holmes |
| 10 Year Boy | Chris Wormald |
| 10 Year Girl | Caitlin Urqhart |
| 11 Year Boy | Ben Perkins |
| 11 Year Girl | Rahni Meade |
| 12 & Over Boy | Charlie Alexander |
| 12 & Over Girl | Charlotte Murphy |

Age Champions

| Grade One Boy | Henry Haddad |
| Grade One Girl | Imogen Fitzgerald |
| Grade Two Boy | Jack Sobey |
| Grade Two Girl | Griet Rowe |
| 9 Year Boy | Hugh Fitzgerald |
| 9 Year Girls | Bridget Mailies & Grace Cleaver |
| 10 Year Boy | Clay Fitzgerald |
| 10 Year Girl | Keely Burland |
| 11 Year Boy | Bailey Cooper |
| 11 Year Girl | Chloe Jones |
| 12 & Over Boy | Hamish Kearney |
| 12 & Over Girl | Eliza Armstrong |

House Shield

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District Athletics
District Athletics is being held on Tuesday 17th March, for the students who have qualified from their results on our Athletics Day, we will be sending home information and permission notes ASAP.

Division Swimming
We had 13 superfish compete in the Division Swimming in Warrnambool yesterday. Stay tuned for their results next week! Thank you to Mr Ferguson and all the parents who supported their children at this event.

Mr Ferguson and Miss Couchman 🐟

Parish News

MASS TIMES – 2016

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
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Youth Group St. Patrick’s Day Dinner

Come along for an Irish themed dinner
and then to watch an Irish movie.
Into the West (97 minutes)

Hope you can attend!
Saturday 19th March at 7pm.
Dunworth Centre.
Gr. 5 to Yr. 12.
RSVP: John Hockey 0439 319 823.

Parents and Friends

MEET, MIX & MINGLE

Come along for a social afternoon in the Gardens.
When: Sunday 20th March 2016
Where: Hamilton Botanic Gardens
Time: 12-2pm
BYO Picnic and Drinks
EASTER EGG HUNT FOR THE KIDS!

Home/School Partnerships
One of our aims this year is to strengthen our already strong and supportive home and school partnerships. Each and every one of us is unique, and a valued member of our school community, with something to offer. The way we welcome, interact, work with,
come to know and support each other enlivens our school community and enhances our students’ development. So, an invitation is warmly extended to you, your family and friends, to share a BYO lunch together, where you will be able to welcome and introduce yourselves to those of us new to St. Mary’s, and reacquaint yourselves with those you already know - as the invitation says ‘Meet, Mix and Mingle! (Please see all the details above.) We sincerely hope to see you there.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Opening time – Wednesday 3.20 – 4.00pm

Purchases can be made by attending the Uniform Shop on Wednesday afternoon or by placing an order with payment at the front office.

**Canteen Roster**

16/3  Michelle Ferey
23/3  Volunteer required

Please note that if there are no parent volunteers there will be no lunch orders available on that day. If you would like to volunteer please put your name on the roster at the front office.

**Easter Egg Raffle!**

It is almost Easter time and we will be having a raffle again this year. This is not a fundraiser but a fun activity that all the children love. Half of the money received from the tickets will purchase the prizes and the other half goes to Project Compassion. Each family is being sent a book of 5 tickets to sell at $1.00 each (feel free to sell both sides of the ticket which makes it $10). Extra books are available at the office. The prizes will be drawn on Thursday 24th March (last day of term 1). Please have your tickets returned to school by Friday 18th March.

**PASTORAL CARE**

Hello, we are heading rapidly towards the end of term, this week we will be looking at Knowing how to Argue, which does seem an odd subject but as we will see there is a way to help our children become good problem solvers.

No.9 Know how to Argue

Families that work well know how to argue. It seems strange to say this because we all have the sense those families that work well don’t have conflicts. The family is really where we learn to resolve disputes fairly. The way that parents teach children to resolve differences of opinion with their brothers and sisters provides the basis for sharing, negotiating and problem solving in the world beyond the family. Whilst differences of opinion should be allowed to be expressed, children also need to learn that they will not be able to win at all costs.

Once again I hope you will find something of interest today.

Regards,

Lisa Gonnet - Pastoral care worker
Ph 0400 994 032

**ASSEMBLY AWARD WINNERS:**

Congratulations to the following Award recipients for:

**Helping Others to Succeed by encouraging them.**

Prep: Maddie Anson and Dustyn Cooper
Grade One/Two F: Michaela Tonissen and Darcy Milne
Grade One/Two S: Warrick Tonissen and Jake Ewing
Grade Five/Six F: Bailey Cooper and Hamish Kearney
Grade Five/Six C: Oscar Watson and Klay Collins

Mr Healy: Ben Perkins and Amalie Rowe

Next Assembly the Award is for:

**Respecting Your School.**

Student News next Assembly will be an Easter Parade by the Grade Six and Prep Buddies.

**Assembly**

See you at our next Assembly

Friday 18th March at 2.40pm!

**ATHLETICS DAY PHOTOS**

Top: Sportsmanship awards
Middle: Age Champions
Bottom: Victorious!
Rosaria House Captains
NAB Hamilton Auskick
Commencing
Saturday, April 16 to Saturday, June 18
Excluding June 11
PEDRINA PARK
Start time 9am - finish time 10.30am
* Regardless of the weather, Auskick will be held *
Registrations and payments online at aflauskick.com.au

HAMILTON SOCCER CLUB 2016
www.hamiltonsoccerclubvic.com
JUNIORS
5 to 16 years
COME & TRY DAY
Saturday 19-3-16
9.30 - 11am
- Get Involved in a Training Session
- Registration Details
- This year MiniRoos @ Hamilton & Dunkeld

MyGolf.org.au

Hamilton Golf Club
6 Week MYGolf Junior Program
Starting Monday 7th, 21st March, 11th, 18th April, 2nd and 9th May
Time: 4:00 - 5:00 Cost $50.00
Bookings MYGOLF.ORG.AU

GREATER HAMILTON
KICK-A-THON
KICK’N IT 4 KIDS
DATE: 20TH MARCH 2016
PLACE: 85 COX STREET
TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
WEAR: LOOSE CLOTHING
TO ALL KIDS, MUMS, DADS
AND GRAND PARENTS TOO
COME AND PARTICIPATE
ORGANIZE YOUR TEAMS
HAVE SOME FUN & GET A WORKOUT
DONATE TO A WORTHY CAUSE
Phone 5571 9816 or 0400 802 346 for more information or to request a sponsorship form

School Holiday Program April 2016
Friday April 1st: AFL Game - Richmond V Collingwood
Melbourne: MCG
2pm-1am
$5

Monday 4th: April: Movie Night
Hamilton Cinema
6pm-8pm

Tuesday April 5th: Paintball
Mount Gambier
8am-5pm
$40

Wednesday April 6th: Hiking, Rock-Climbing and Abseiling
Halls Gap
7:30am-5:30pm
$20

Thursday April 7th: Windy-Mara Bung Bung Tour with Bush-Tucker Lunch and optional Aboriginal Craft Afternoon
Heywood
9am start. Optional pickup at 1pm or 4pm
$10

Enrolments Open for 2017
Monivae invites potential 2017 Year 7 students and families to visit Monivae College
Open Days
- Tuesday 22nd February 9:30am
- Sunday 6th March 2pm
- Thursday 16th March 7pm
Spend the day @ Monivae
- Tuesday 22nd March
Please contact Registrar Mrs Meg Cook for further information
(03) 5551 1245