Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

There are quite a few events coming up over the next few weeks. Please make sure they are on your calendar so you don’t miss them!

There is a very settled atmosphere around the learning spaces at the moment with students working well in their daily routines and using learning time productively.

I have also seen students helping and supporting each other over the last week. This demonstrates a wonderful sense of community and willingness to help others succeed. Well done!

Thanks to those parents who support their children by ensuring they are at school ready for learning each day. Although at times this is not easy on these cold mornings, your child benefits greatly from being punctual.

Thank you for a great week!
God bless you ☺

Jo-Anne

Prayers
This week we have been praying for Jono and Em Beattie’s little brother, Angus, who has been unwell in hospital. We hope he is home soon!

“... if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us... God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.”
1 Jn 4: 11 - 16

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**MAY**
- Tues 19th: P&F meeting @ 7.00
- Wed 20th: School Council @ 7.00pm
- Thurs 21st: Gr 5/6C class mass @ 10.00am
- Fri 22nd: Assembly – Presentation of Peg Collery Scholarships
- Mon 25th – Fri 29th: Catholic Education Week
  - Mon 25th: Open Morning 9.30am – 12.30pm
  - Tues 26th: Café Chat!
  - Wed 27th: National Simultaneous Story time
  - Fri 29th: Division Cross Country

**JUNE**
- Mon 8th: Public holiday
- Tues 9th: Expo Committee & Team Leaders meeting @ 6.00pm
- Fri 12th: PSG meetings
  - Regional Cross Country Confirmation workshop
- Sun 14th: Sacrament of Confirmation @ 10am
- Wed 17th: School Council @ 7.00pm
- Thurs 25th: School photos – all students in correct winter uniform please
- Fri 26th: End of Term 2
  - Reports and Journals home
  - Early finish @ 2.15pm
Pupil Free Day
Teachers participated in a wonderful day of professional learning on Monday with a continued focus on oral language and the connection to improved outcomes for students. Staff will continue to work with Matt O’Brien and Sarah Macdonald each fortnight to further enhance this area of learning.

NAPLAN
Well done to all students in Grades 3 & 5 who participated in their NAPLAN testing this week. Students were confident that they had done their best over the three days. Thanks also to staff who supported these students prior to and during the test period.

Shoes please!
School shoes are being removed when students enter to building which helps us respect our school by trying to keep it clean and tidy. Well done and thanks to those who followed the instruction of having a sturdy plastic bag to place their shoes in when they take them off.

Staff organisation
Staff are currently beginning to prepare student reports and plan for Term 3. Over the next few weeks teachers will be working in their teams in order to complete these tasks. Our part time staff and casual relief teachers will cover classes on the relevant days.

Nepal Appeal
Our students in Grade 3/4 are organising a money line to raise money for the appeal for victims devastated by the earthquake in Nepal recently. All students and staff are encouraged to bring along their loose change on Friday 22nd May and place it on the outline of the word Nepal. Money raised will be donated to Caritas.

NEWSLETTER
If you would like the newsletter e-mailed to you each week please send an e-mail request to Meg Cook mcook@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au
The newsletter is also distributed through the Skoolbag app and can be found on the school website!

Expo 2015!
Apparently it is only 206 days until this year’s Expo!! The first Expo Newsletter for the year is being sent home today. Please spend some time finding out about the plans for this year and consider how you can contribute.

Would you like to come to school and experience the learning experiences that are provided? Join us for our Open Morning!

THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!
Our latest OLSEL workshop included opportunities to share our current OLSEL practices with teachers from other schools. We shared the way we have implemented our Vocab Chart and Phonological Awareness sessions into our Daily 5 literacy program. We celebrated the way our students are 100% engaged in these oral activities. Their knowledge of how to investigate synonyms, antonyms and word definitions has increased immensely. We are even seeing the children include these words into their own story writing - this is the success that every teacher dreams of!

Leonie Wolfe

Our third OLSEL day at Halls Gap on Monday was a fantastic opportunity for our staff to engage with other teachers about Oral Language. It was very valuable to learn about the strategies that other schools are trying and the successes that they are experiencing. As always, we love to share what our students are doing and the way they are using the skills they are learning across all curriculum areas.

Terrielynn Groves
I can see so many positives in using OLSEL strategies in the classroom as part of our everyday teaching. It uses simple strategies to build reading and writing skills such as knowing how to break a word into syllables (kan/ga/roo), sounds (s/p/o/t) or onset and rime (fr/og, sh/ip). It also develops rhyming skills which assists with spelling, reading and writing. As the Reading Recovery teacher, these are the fundamental skills that I use every day to enhance and develop reading and writing at a young age. It is proven to make a difference. I am excited to know that all students are using these skills in the classroom and believe the results will be evident in the future. There is a lot more to OLSEL that we will learn about in upcoming sessions.

Lindy Cullinane

The Sport Catch Up

Cross Country
We had around 40 students give District Cross Country their all on Tuesday. The weather didn’t dampen the runners’ spirits and some brilliant competition was witnessed. The finish line was action packed, with many very close finishes. We had seven top 8 placings and five qualifiers for Division Cross Country, which is being held in Warrnambool on Friday 29th May. Notes for these children will go out Monday. Please see below for top 8 results (I will display the full results at school):

- Keely Burland 2nd
- Amy Shelley 7th
- Lily Annett 2nd
- Eliza Sobey 8th
- Jason Hawker 2nd
- Sam Crawford 1st
- Tom Burland 8th

Thank you to Mrs Wolfe, Mrs Minney, Krystal Fitzgerald, Monique Sobey and Hayley Piper for their support on the day!

Aussie Footy
The Aussie Footy dates and format aren’t set in concrete yet, but it looks as though it will be taking a Lightning Premiership format over two Wednesday nights early in Term Three. Watch this space for more details over the coming term.

Cybersafety
This week’s topic is parental controls. Parental controls help monitor and limit what your children do online. Use this QR code to find out which tools you should use to block out the bad stuff.

High Tea at St Mary’s!

Last Friday at St Mary’s our mums, grandmas and special friends were treated to a High Tea to celebrate Mother’s Day. Delicious food and great company were the highlights of the afternoon. Following afternoon tea, a prayer service at assembly ended our lovely day! Some of the children also shared their thoughts about their mums and why they love them so much.

‘I love my mum because when she smiles at me, it makes me feel special. She is always there for me, when I’m happy, when I’m sad, when I’m excited; she’s always there to share the moments with me.

I love when just mum and I go places together like to the movies. Last year when I was sick in hospital, mum and I spent Mother’s Day together. I told her how bad I felt for her and she said she wouldn’t want to be anywhere else.

I love the way my mum visits her mum and loves her like I love mum.

I love my mum so much. I hope one day that I’ll be a mother and will be as beautiful as her.’

By Demi Taylor Gr. 6
Parents and Friends

Canteen Roster Term 2

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<td>20/05</td>
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Would you like to find out what is involved to do canteen duty? Feel free to put your name on the list at the office next to one of the regular helpers who would be more than happy to work with you and show you what to do.

LINK UP!

Over the past couple of weeks we have exhausted our Link Up freezer! It has been wonderful to be able to help many families but we need to restock! If you would like to donate items (cakes, soup, sausage rolls etc) to this important community activity it would be greatly appreciated. Please date and label these items and send them in to the freezer in the multi-purpose room. Please only use disposable containers. Thanks!

Uniform Shop

Due to a change in Policy the Uniform Shop will no longer be accepting uniform items to sell on your behalf. If you wish to sell your child’s uniforms you will need to do so privately. Two suggestions are the Facebook pages of ‘Hamilton Buy, Swap and Sell’ and ‘Hamilton School Uniforms’.

The Uniform Shop will however still gratefully accept donated uniforms. Please remember that when donating it is appreciated if items are in a good, clean condition.

Thanking you

Sally Finch

Get your green thumbs ready!

Order your bare rooted roses and trees from Lady Bug Nursery and support your school! See the school office for an order form and drop it into the Nursery.

$1 from each rose and $2 from each tree ordered will be donated to your school.