They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.”
Acts 2

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

We celebrate our school Feast Day on the Feast of Pentecost!

The stained glass window we see each time we enter our Parish Church reminds us of the central figure of Mary in the life of the early Christians.

Pentecost is also considered the ‘birthday’ of the Church as when the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit they then had the courage to share the message of Jesus to others.

We will celebrate our Feast Day with a liturgy beginning at 1.00pm on Monday 25th May in the Learning Street. This will be followed by celebratory cakes (thanks to Gr 5/6 students for supplying cupcakes) and House group activities in the afternoon.

You are more than welcome to join us!

Thanks for a great week!
God bless you ☺
Jo-Anne

Café Chat!
Next Tues 26th May
@ 9.00am in the Staffroom

Catholic Education Week
Mon 25th – Fri 29th

Café Chat!

Gr 5/6 Network mass @ Casterton
National Simultaneous Story time

Gr 3/4 Class mass with CWL Regional Gathering – St Mary’s Church @ 12.00pm

Division Cross Country

Public holiday

Expo Committee & Team Leaders meeting @ 6.00pm

PSG meetings

Regional Cross Country Confirmation workshop

Sacrament of Confirmation @ 10am

School Council @ 7.00pm

School photos – all students in correct winter uniform please

End of Term 2
Reports and Journals home
Early finish @ 2.15pm
Royal Commission
As you may be aware, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse began in Ballarat on Tuesday and is expected to last approximately three weeks.
In a letter to our church and school communities in January Bishop Paul wrote:
“That the Royal Commission will examine the damaging impacts which the abuse has inflicted on the social fabric of our community and the families within the community.”
We are very supportive of the Royal Commission and all Church organisations are co-operating with it fully to ensure that the victims and survivors may have their voices heard. This may be a difficult time for all involved.
A letter from Bishop Paul Bird and the Director of Catholic Education, Ms. Audrey Brown, in relation to the Royal Commission was posted to all parents this week. It contains contact numbers should you or anyone in the community wish to seek support at this time. The contact numbers for support are: Access 1800 222 125 or Relationships Australia: 1800 052 674.
If you did not receive these letters in the mail but are interested in receiving them please contact the school and we will arrange a copy for you.

A HEALING PRAYER
Loving God
We pray for our brothers and sisters who have been abused within our Church; that they may find justice and peace.
We pray that the healing love of Jesus, expressed particularly through our compassion and care, will ease their suffering and give them the strength to experience healing.
We pray for our community; that we remain united, accepting and nurturing to each other during this time. Allow us to remain positive and supportive people within society. Help us to continue to spread the love of God to all.
We pray for the Catholic Church that we welcome the Royal Commission with open hearts and minds. Help us to acknowledge past wrongs. Give us the strength to become transparent and true advocates for the wronged and vulnerable.
We pray for the Commission; that it is a source of justice and peace to all those affected.
May the grace of God guide us during this difficult time.
We offer this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

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
Well done to our students and teachers in Grade 3/4 who have organised our appeal for the victims of the Nepal earthquake. Our money line was held earlier today so we will count the money up, let you know the total next week and send our donation off to Caritas. Thanks for your support!

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!

Peg Collery Memorial Scholarship 2015
At assembly today the Peg Collery Memorial Scholarships were presented to students who were nominated by their teachers. Names and information about each recipient will be included in next week’s newsletter.

Lunch time activities
On Tuesdays and Fridays we have been doing inside games for the 1/2s and preps. We have had a great turnout of 22 preps in week 1 and 17 1/2 s in week 2.
In the coming weeks we were hoping to do ‘God’s eyes’ so we will be needing some coloured wool. We would love if you could bring some in. There will be a basket at the front of the school for the donations of wool. Thanks everyone for your support! Eliza Armstrong & Taylor Bowie
Open Morning!
Please feel welcome to come along and join in our Open Morning next Monday 25th May from 9.30am – 12.30pm. You could join a tour of the school with myself, Terrielynn Groves and Kerry Stevens, visit the classrooms and join in the learning activities the students will be involved in and grab a cuppa in the staff room. It would be great to see you – feel free to invite grandparents, other family members or friends to come along.

The Sport Catch Up
At the Equestrian Horse Games Drew Garratt and I went to the game day at Hamilton and Alexandra College. We did a barrel race, much and cup, bouncing pony, ball and cone and bending race. I won 3rd place overall for my group which is Grade 3/4 for all different schools around Hamilton. I rode my horse Lee. It was a great day.

Emily Pearce
At the Equestrian horse games day Emily and I had lots of fun. The games were barrel race, bending race, mug and cup, all and cone, bouncing pony and then I had a fancy dress. I dressed up as an Emirates worker and my pony was the plane. I came 3rd in fancy dress. Si, my pony was a good girl. She is 12 hands high and is 12 years old.

Drew Garratt

School Fees
School Fees have been sent home with today’s newsletter. If you have any queries or concerns please contact Helen at the office. Thank you.

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.

Not sure how to access information with a QR code? Search your app store for a QR code reader – a free one will do. If you still require help let us know (or ask your child!!!)

Parents and Friends
Canteen Roster Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27/05</td>
<td>Jen Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/06</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/06</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/06</td>
<td>Jen Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/06</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!

Prep
A reminder for parents to send back their completed school nurse envelopes by Monday.

Creation Prayers from the Preps:
I would like to thank God for the beautiful mountains and dogs. (Jay)
I would like to thank God for the waves and dolphins. (Lily)
I would like to thank God for the beautiful butterflies and the beautiful roses. (Ruby F)

This week I have been practising my 6 times tables. Multiplication is related to division. 6x6=36 so 36 divided by 6=6! Some of them are a bit tricky.

Emily Pearce Gr 3/4
I learnt about creation. I learnt about a game called shopping list.

Arlo Walsh Grade prep
I have learnt about prime numbers. It is a number that only has two factors, you can only multiply it by itself and one. Examples are 1,3,5,7,11,13,17,19,23….

Charlie Alexander Gr 5/6
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. 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

P & F meeting
At a recent P and F meeting I made the decision to not renominate for the position of chairperson of the P and F. Although it’s a very easy role to fill, due to time constraints and a need for a new direction within the group I felt the time was right to step down. I have been actively involved at meetings for 5 years and have and will continue to participate in assisting the school parents, staff, children, grandparents and friends in any way I can. The time is right for a new face to come forward. I got involved to meet people. Because we live out of town I didn’t know people in the school community. I must say it has been a great experience and a lot of fun. The position of chair involves running meetings, presenting the odd gift and doing what you can to help. So, if you feel you are able to provide assistance to the P and F come to a meeting or contact me if you wish.

Andrew Borgmeyer

This week, for the first time in my 2 1/2 years as a St Mary’s parent, I actually went to a P&F meeting. You can’t imagine the relief of finally easing my guilty conscience! As it turns out, these meetings are the best way of hearing about the big and small things going on in their days and understanding what role we can continue to play in improving their school experience. It’s also how school parents get to know each other. Yes, it is a fact that P&F really needs someone to put their hand up to be Chairperson this year, but if this is not your cup of tea, please remember that there is a way that everyone can contribute, no matter how small. The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 June, following directly on from the next Expo meeting. It’s in my diary. Pop it in yours!

St Mary’s gardening program
We’ve had a lovely delivery of composty-soil to top up our raised garden beds, and the Grade 3/4s are getting ready to get their hands dirty with some serious winter vegetable planting. If you have any surplus veggie seedlings, or even bulbs, we’d very much appreciate your donations to the cause. And if you’d like to get a bit of dirt under your own fingernails, please remember that all parents and grandparents are most welcome to come and join in the Thursday community gardening sessions - 2.20pm every week!

Naomi Turner

Parish News

MASS TIMES - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunkeld</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenthompson</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penshurst</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macarthur</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LITURGY OF LAMENT
St Mary’s Church, Hamilton
Saturday 30th May, 7pm
Sunday 31st May, 11.30am
(Following Mass, held in the Day Chapel)

With the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, already well underway in Ballarat, you are invited to join in prayer with a Liturgy of Lament, to be held on Saturday 30th May and Sunday 31st May. Liturgies of Lament were established practice among the People of Israel long before the time of Jesus. They are primarily an outpouring of community grief on the occasion of some overwhelming calamity, and are performed consciously in the presence of God might somehow touch them in their need. Please join us as we earnestly seek God’s healing in our midst.