Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Our school has been abuzz with this week’s activities – Open Morning, Feast Day, Simultaneous Story Time, Catholic Education Week Network liturgy and gathering...

One of the highlights for me was our House group activities on Monday afternoon. With house names – Loreto, Lourdes, Fatima and Rosaria – not being part of our daily vocabulary we thought it was important to spend some time learning about their significance.

Students worked together with their House mates in a very focused and co-operative way. They enjoyed working with students from other grades – some even loved working with their siblings!!

Our Grade 5 and 6 students also impressed me when we gathered with other children from St Joseph’s Penshurst, St Joseph’s Coleraine, Sacred Heart Casterton, All Saints Portland and St Malachy’s Edenhope on Wednesday in Casterton. Our students made an amazing effort to mix with students from other schools and be inclusive in their chosen activities. Well done!

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

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

**June**
- Fri 5th: P&F Lunch – hot dogs
- 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
- Mon 22nd: School photos – all students in correct winter uniform please
  - NB change of date
- Fri 26th: End of Term 2
  - Pyjama Day!
  - Reports and Journals home
  - Early finish @ 2.15pm

**July**
- Mon 13th: Welcome to Term 3!
- Fri 17th: Australian Ballet incursion
- Thurs 23rd: Grade 3/4 HoopTime
  - Sacramental parent m’ing – First Communion @ 7.00pm Dunworth Centre
- Fri 24th: Cartoonist – Matt Glover visit
Shoes please!
School shoes are being removed when students enter the 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.

Peg Collery Memorial Scholarship
Last Friday at our assembly the annual Peg Collery Memorial Scholarships were presented. These are presented each year to a recipient in the Junior, Middle and Senior area of our school.

Peg’s husband, Joe, initiated this scholarship in our school in 2004, after Peg’s death. His criteria for the scholarship was ‘...the hope that the students selected will be able to become a citizen proud of school, our city and Australia.’

We were thankful to Ted Oliver who presented the scholarships and shared his memories of Joe and Peg Collery with us.

Congratulations to Jude Alexander, Libby Fox and Max Bradbury who were recognised by their teachers as wonderful examples of the qualities Joe Collery asked staff to consider in the selection of students for the scholarships. An outline of the fantastic efforts of each recipient is included below.

Junior 2015 – Jude Alexander
Jude is a student that continually strives to uphold the values of St Mary’s. He is a diligent and hardworking student. Jude tries his best in everything he does. He loves to learn and this is demonstrated in the positive attitude he brings into the classroom each day.

Jude also demonstrates this enthusiasm with extra-curricular activities as well. He is a keen footballer and enjoys giving his best to his sporting activities too.

Jude is a great classmate. He is an excellent role model to the other students in the school and has successfully been a ‘coach’ to others who may need help with different aspects of being at school.

Jude is a deserving recipient of the Peg Collery scholarship and we know that he will continue to demonstrate all the values and ideals that underpin this award and indeed, St Mary’s school.

Middle 2015 – Libby Fox
Libby has many wonderful qualities that make her a fabulous class member who is admired and looked up to by her class mates and the wider school community.

Libby is a very enthusiastic student who always presents herself for the learning day in an organised and willing manner. Libby is a keen learner and, although at times she finds school challenging, is always working towards improving her understandings.

To this end Libby completes a lot of additional work at home, demonstrating an awareness that hard work, both at home and at school, is the best way for her to achieve her goals.

Libby is a quiet and considerate class member who is friendly to her class mates and shows concern and compassion for those around her.

Libby is also a very active member of her local community and participates in a variety of activities including Taekwondo, motor bike riding, swim club, and has been a great help at fundraising events such as the Mothers Day Classic, where she hones her mathematical skills working with money by selling cupcakes.

Libby is a very deserving recipient of the Peg Collery memorial scholarship for 2015. Congratulations Libby!

Senior 2015 – Max Bradbury
Congratulations to Max Bradbury, a most worthy recipient of the Peg Collery scholarship in 2015.

Max is a very friendly and happy person who thoroughly enjoys working and playing with his peers.

Max is a delightful young man who impresses all those who meet him. His gentle manner and genuine concern for others are outstanding qualities which make others feel important and cared for.

Max is a loyal friend. He demonstrates the Golden Rule at St Mary’s by always being willing to assist others, often going out of his way to do so. He is the person you can trust to make you feel welcome when you join the group. He has always shown great care for those less able than himself, going out of his way to assist those with their learning or physical needs.

Max has been fully involved in all aspects of school life: from being a School Councillor as part of the 2015 Gr 6 Leadership Group to playing one of the main parts in our school production of ‘Joseph and
The Sport Catch Up

Last Friday, some of the Yr 6s went to HILAC and took part in one of the WheelTalk sessions. The presenter Gary told us what it’s like to be in a wheelchair and how we can avoid ending up in one. We all got to have a go at riding in them and we also had a game of wheelchair basketball. It was quite hard to get used to but once you did, it was lots of fun. The session made us more aware of the impact being in a wheelchair has on people’s lives.

Ayva Jones gr 6

THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!

Monivae Stadium
When the Preps went to the stadium we did some running and we played a tagging game. We played heaps of games. I loved Scarecrow Tiggy and Tunnel Ball.

Darcy Milne Prep

When we went to the stadium we did a couple of warm-ups. Then we learnt some soccer skills with the Monivae boys who are trained in soccer. I really loved having free shots at the goals.

Jack Sobey Gr 1

For sport this week we did soccer. For the warm-up we did Grab the Tail. Then we practised kicking the soccer ball. Last week we did dancing. My favourite dance was the Heel and Toe Polka.

Maddison Cotten Gr 2

the Technicolor Coat’ last year. His rendition of ‘One More Angel in Heaven’ will be remembered by all as outstanding! He showed great courage and dedication towards learning the words for his solo song.

Max eagerly participates at school and parish masses. He regularly assists in fund raising activities at school and is always willing to put his hand up to volunteer.

Max works hard to improve, consistently completing all tasks to the very best of his ability. He understands the areas which challenge him and puts the extra effort in, always being ‘the boss of his learning’.

Today we are very pleased to acknowledge the fine effort that Max has put into his school work, but most of all we are proud of the kind and caring person that he is. You are a wonderful example to others. Congratulations Max!

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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
Last 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 how you actually find out what’s going on in school (my kids seem to have somewhat unreliable memories). They also offer you a way of contributing to the school community in a way that suits your availability, and your particular set of skills. It is notoriously hard to convince people to go to meetings they don’t have to go to, especially when they are fearful of being dabbed in for a position of responsibility. But it is true that our kids lives become a bit of a mystery to us once they start school. 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!

Naomi Turner

Canteen Roster Term 2

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/06</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
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<td>10/06</td>
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<td>17/06</td>
<td>Jen Taylor</td>
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<td>24/06</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
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Hot Dogs! Friday 5th June
On Friday 5th June the P & F will be preparing hot dogs for students and staff. Those who haven’t got their orders in already need to do so by Monday 1st June. Lunch will cost $5.00 and includes a fruit box. Please include payment with order. Spare forms available at the school office.

Parish News

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Saturday 6pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 10.30am</td>
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<td>Dunkeld</td>
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<td>Glenthompson</td>
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<td>Penshurst</td>
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<td>Macarthur</td>
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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.

Hamilton Catholic Youth Group
Soup Fundraiser!!!!!!!
When: Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th June after masses. Soup and bread roll in exchange for a donation. All proceeds go to those deeply affected by the earthquakes in Nepal.
Contact John and Sherrie Hockey- 0439 319 823