Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Tomorrow is the feast day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – an Australian nun who is also our country’s first Catholic Saint. Her motto for life was: ‘Never see a need without doing something about it’. Mary MacKillop brought the message of human dignity to all whom she encountered. She held in reverence each person about whom she spoke even those who had caused her great pain. Sister Mechtilde, a fellow Sister of St Joseph, recalls how ‘if anyone came to her in trouble and distress, she would encourage and help them and draw the good that was in them out’. Stories abound of how people responded to her presence.

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

Pupil Free Days – Term 3
A reminder that
Monday 10th August
is a pupil free day to allow staff to attend professional learning.

IMPORTANT DATES

AUGUST
Mon 10th  Pupil Free Day – OLSEL Professional Learning for Staff
Tues 11th  Looking Forward Parish Gathering
Wed 12th  Aussie Footy comp 3.00 – 4.50pm
Fri 14th  Parish Family Dinner – Gr 2
Mon 17th  Book Fair starts!
Fri 21st  Parish family dinner – Gr 3
Fri 28th  First Communion workshop
Sun 30th  Sacrament of First Communion
– St Mary’s Church @ 10.30am

SEPTEMBER
Fri 4th  Fathers’ Day Footy Lunch!
Bake Day for Expo!
PSG meetings

Tues 8th – Wed 9th  School Review
Thurs 10th  Art Show Opening!
Fri 13th  End of Term 3!
Learning Journals home
Welcome Back Fr Paddy
This week we were excited to welcome Fr Paddy home from his holiday. Paddy, we hope you feel relaxed, refreshed and renewed. We are glad to have you back.

Prayers
There are a number of people in our school and diocesan community who are unwell or recovering at the moment. We continue to hope and pray that you are on the road to recovery and look forward to having you back amongst us.

Looking Forward Gathering
Approximately 12 months ago the Diocese conducted a Looking Forward process to support parishes in their strategic planning and the important work they are called to do in an increasingly ‘wider’ community. Our Parish has been working extremely hard to ‘go to where the people are’ with the introduction of initiatives such as the family dinners which are generously hosted by Fr Paddy and workers from our parish. We have also been fortunate with the ongoing and loving support of the Parish Team, in particular Paddy (and Marg until this year).

Next Tuesday 11th August at 7.00pm in the Dunworth Centre the Looking Forward process continues with the opportunity to further look at opportunities and celebrations in our St Mary’s Parish. Fr Justin Driscoll and Amanda Smith (from the Diocesan Office) will facilitate the session which allows parish members to contribute to the goals and strategies in our community.

As our school is a vital part of our Parish community and is highly valued by our fellow parishioners it would be great to have parent support for the work of the parish on this evening. Your feedback and ideas would be very much appreciated. Please give some consideration to attending the Looking Forward gathering next Tuesday and be a contributor to the important work of our Parish.

Hope to see you there!

Skoolbag App
The Skoolbag app is now available on Windows 8.1 and 10. To install Skoolbag on your Windows device, look up "Skoolbag" in the Windows Store, and install it. Once installed you can find your school, and pin it to your Windows Home Screen.

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.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)
If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be $125 for primary school students.

This program has now been extended and the closing date is Wednesday 16th September, 2015. Please contact the office for an application form or for further information.

Book Week 2015
Theme: ‘Books Light Up Our World’
The Children’s Book Council of Australia (CBCA), established in 1945, is a not for profit, volunteer run, organisation which aims to engage the community with literature for young Australians and celebrates 70 years, this year! The CBCA presents annual awards to books of literary merit, for outstanding contribution to Australian children's literature.

We have many of this year’s Shortlisted books already in our collection and they will soon be on display in our Library Resource Centre, now situated in the centre of our school. This year’s winners will be announced on Saturday, 22nd August 2015.

We have in the past celebrated this annual event with a variety of activities centred around the Shortlisted Books and/or the theme. Two activities that are most popular are a Book Fair and a Book Week Parade (details of this event will be included in next week’s newsletter). This year we will again celebrate this annual event.

As our Library Resource Centre is now situated in the centre of our school, those attending our Book Fair this year, will need to be mindful of the learning taking place around this space.

- Our Book Fair will take place in our Library Resource Centre and will open next Monday, 17th August 2015.
- Monday, 17th August, 2015 will be a Preview Day (no purchases will be made on this day). On this day everyone is welcome to enter our Library Resource Centre and look at and explore the items on display. The students may come home with a wish list in hand after their visit!
- On Tuesday, the students in Grades Prep-2 will visit our Library Resource Centre during their Library lesson time. Please respect this learning time. The students in Grades 3-6 (with their teachers) and all other interested people will be invited and welcomed to visit the Book Fair after 12.30p.m. on that day.
- Sales will commence on Wednesday morning 19th August 2015.
Professors Pollefeyt presented some interesting theological background into the reasons behind setting up the Enhancing Catholic Identity in Schools project and led a discussion as to the way we move forward keeping our Catholic identity in schools where the students are increasingly from diverse religious backgrounds. I certainly felt pleased that the vision for the future of schools such as ours is one based on acceptance and acknowledgement of other religions but where our Catholic scripture and values is at the foundation of everything we do.

Overall I found the day interesting and a great reminder to take the time to celebrate our traditions and the importance of incorporating them into the teaching of Catholic values and scripture.

Lisa Schurmann

Grade Prep
Writing pieces about Grandparents Day!
On Friday my nanna and grandad came to school. Nanna and I did a drawing.

Darcy Milne

On Grandparents Day my Aunty came, we played bocce and it was fun and we ate some food. It was fun.

Imogen Gallagher

Grade 5/6
Descriptive Writing from our Parent Information Session!
The colourful, bright, open learning space stimulated my voluminous brain. As I read the splendid, dynamic posters that came to life as you looked at them, my eyes wept profusely, overjoyed as I was by my learning.

(Lani & Ben Gallagher)
The creative students quickly and quietly move off to their colourful and open learning space.  
(Amalie & Jonathon Rowe)

The learning space is an amazing place to learn. It is fun and the teachers are great. We have the best opportunities to learn the best we can and to improve our learning. We are proud of our achievements. It is wonderful that we have so much space to get engaged with our learning.  
(Edward De Salis & Michelle Ferey)

Descriptive Writing from Class!
The wonderful learning space is a colourful place to learn. The children speak quietly and work well as the teachers make their work very challenging.  
(Demi & Tegan)

All the students are engaged in their learning. I think the colourful environment helps them stay on task. The school is so inviting with all the happy children’s funky work.  
(Eliza & Eliza)

The 5/6s are quietly engaged in their open and organised learning space. Daily 5 makes them feel as though they have a choice in their learning. The bright and colourful area makes you want to prance into school. Making learning fun encourages kids to learn more. The teachers are confident when it comes to teaching.  
(Isabella & Tiana)

The 5/6 area is a very bright and colourful part of the school. The innovative design has only been introduced this year and already the students have adapted to this interesting new space. The students confidently fill out their timetables each morning and they refer to them all day.  
(Saskia & Ayva)

The carpet is colourful with bright patches. The children are as focused as a colony of ants. The room is as open as a green field.  
(Max B, Oliver & Josh M)

Cybersafety

This week, our QR code will take you to the Cybersmart blog, where many different issues are raised and discussed. Check back regularly for new entries.

The Sport Catch Up

Aussie Foozy – Please note a new draw will be given Monday. Aussie Foozy will be held in a Lightning Premiership format, over the one afternoon of Wednesday 12th August. It will be held at Pedrina Park, from 3:00pm to 4:50pm. There are now five schools participating. This format should be very exciting! Grade 5/6s who handed in their blue note will be given an updated draw on Monday. Thank you to Dylan Mailes for offering his assistance, it is greatly appreciated!

Sport in our Community!
Well done to Edward De Salis who was one of two Coleraine Auskick participants selected for the half time game at Simonds Stadium last weekend! I’m sure you weren’t so nervous once you got on the field!

If you would like to share any sports news with our school community please email Miss Couchman at ecouchman001@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

Parents and Friends

TRIVIA NIGHT
Friday 28th August @ 6.30pm
Come along for a fun, social night
Place your name on the list at the office if you would like to attend!

Canteen Roster Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Canteen Roster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/8/15</td>
<td>Jenni Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/8/15</td>
<td>Jenni Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/8/15</td>
<td>Michelle Ferey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/8/15</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9/15</td>
<td>Jenni Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/9/15</td>
<td>Cathy Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/9/15</td>
<td>Michelle Ferey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parish News

Mass Times - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Saturday 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunkeld</td>
<td>Sunday 10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenthompson</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penshurst</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macarthur</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>