Mary, our Mother,
your total giving of yourself reminds us that we hold in trust from God our Father
all our accomplishments and talents and gifts trusted as we are to offer them in his service,
and bring happiness and well-being to our brothers and sisters.

Your yes to God’s invitation to be the mother of his son reminds us
that prayer is not just words but is from the heart.

We ask you to pray to Jesus for us
that the Holy Spirit may live fully in us, too,
so that we may pray in the way that each of us finds best.

So may we be prepared to join you in saying yes
to God our Father,
that Jesus may be born anew in our hearts. Amen.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

The next social event organised by the Parents and
Friends is quickly approaching. The Trivia Night on
Friday 28th August will be a great opportunity for
parents and staff to catch up and compare the
amount of trivial facts they hold in their heads!
Hope to see you there – don’t forget to reply so the
evening can be organised effectively.

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

Pupil Free Day – Staff Professional Learning
Monday was a reflection day where we got to see
how other schools have implemented elements of
the OLSEL program. We also gathered new ideas on
how to extend the elements into the multiple
intelligence model. As a staff, we were able to
celebrate our successes so far with OLSEL by sharing
positive data and student engagement in the
program with other schools in the Diocese.
We had time to examine the challenges and to
plan collaboratively about where we will go next to
support student learning. Sherree, Lisa, Tania

IMPORTANT DATES

AUGUST
Fri 14th
Parish Family Dinner @ 6.30 – Gr 2
Book Fair starts!
Mon 17th
Parish family dinner – Gr 3
Fri 21st
Gr Transition Night @ 7.00pm
Tues 25th
Monivae ‘Grease’ production Gr 3-6
Wed 26th
Expo Committee @ 6.00pm
Thurs 27th
History Box incursion – Gr 3/4
Fri 28th
First Communion workshop
P&F Trivia Night!
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 12th
End of Term 3!
Learning Journals home
Early finish @ 2.15pm

OCTOBER
Mon 5th
Term 1 starts!
**Prayers**

We continue to remember and pray for many parents, students, staff and friends in our school community who are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery at the moment. We hope you are back on your feet and with us again soon.

**Monivae Production**

Students in Grades 3 – 6 have been invited to attend a performance of the Monivae production of ‘Grease’. Our information has it that the content should be suitable for this age group please let your child’s classroom teacher know if you wish your child not to attend.

**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.

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

**THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!**

“FINALLY! It’s Grandparents Day”, I thought to myself.

Last Friday was Grandparents Day at St Mary’s. First we had a respectful liturgy where we sang a song called ‘Because You Loved Me’ to our grandparents. Then we went into our coloured house groups and we did lots of really fun activities with our grandparents. I played paddocks with mine. I had a fantastic, awesome day!

By Ava Sobey

ON Friday it was Grandparents day. First we had a liturgy and sang a song to our grandparents. Then we went into house groups and me, Xavier and Pa played paddocks and Pa won. So then we went to get a picture with everyone. Then we lined up for a game but it was taking too long so then we went to get something to eat. Finally we read a story and then we went home.

By Zane Piper

**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.**
  - **Purchases can be made before school, that is from 8.30a.m. until the first bell, at recess and lunchtime on Wednesday 19th August, 2015.**
  - **Purchases can be made before school, that is from 8.30a.m. until the first bell, and after school, until 5p.m., on Thursday 20th August, 2015.** (Please note that the Book Fair at this stage WILL NOT be open on this day at Recess or lunchtime due to the Librarian’s other commitments. If this changes you will be notified. Thank you in advance for your understanding.)
• Purchases can be made before school, that is from 8.30a.m. until the first bell, at recess and lunchtime and after school, until 5p.m., on Friday 21st August, 2015.
• Please note: Purchase Times and dates of the second week are yet to be finalised. They will be included on next week’s newsletter.
• The Book Fair will close on Thursday 27th August 2015 at 4.30p.m.

Please understand there is no pressure to purchase but a percentage of the sales go towards purchasing new resources for our school. And, in addition, you may consider purchasing a book for us to send to children in need... and keep in mind Christmas is fast approaching!

GRADE 6 TRANSITION EVENING

A FREE information night for parents and students who are making the transition from Grade 6 to Year 7

TUESDAY 25TH AUGUST 2015
FROM 7.00-8.30 PM
Chevalier Centre, Monivae College
(light supper provided)

RSVP to your Primary School by 21st August to reserve your spot
Proudly Sponsored by
Glengel & Southern Grampians LLEN and
Brophy School Focused Youth Services

PASTORAL CARE

From Lisa Gonnet Pastoral Care Worker
This week I would like to share with you a website that is full of information regarding children’s wellbeing. It is a site that has been developed in conjunction with the Australian Government, Beyond Blue, Australian Psychological Society (APS) and others.

Below I have reproduced a short excerpt which relates to a subject that many parents have some concerns, their child’s emotional wellbeing and confidence.

What does social and emotional learning have to do with learning?
Research has shown that children’s learning is influenced by a range of social and emotional factors. How well children do at school is affected by things such as:
• how confident children feel about their abilities
• how effectively they are able to manage their own behaviour
• how well they can concentrate and organise themselves
• how effectively they can solve problems
• how positively they are able to get on with teaching staff and with peers
• how effectively they take into account others’ needs
• how well they can understand and accept responsibilities.

As Pastoral Care Worker I am able to work with your child to help them to learn personal skills that will help them, not just in school, but hopefully for life.

The website this is taken from is: www.kidsmatter.edu.au I hope you will find it of interest.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you wish to meet me, to know who I am, please call me on 0400 994 032

Cybersafety
This week’s QR code will take you to the Australian Government's Cybersafety Help Button. This button provides internet users, particularly children and young people, with easy online access to cybersafety information and assistance available in Australia. It offers counselling, reporting and educational resources to assist young people deal with online risks including cyberbullying, unwanted contact, scams and fraud, and offensive or inappropriate material.

The help button is a free application that is easily downloaded onto personal computers, mobile devices, and school and library networks. All you need do is choose one of the installation options.

Once the help button is installed, you can access it anytime for help or advice about something unsafe or upsetting that you have encountered on the internet.
Parish News

Youth Group Picnic
Saturday 22nd August @ 11.30am
Hamilton Botanical Gardens
Lunch & beverages provided
Please bring dessert to share
Grade 5 to Year 12
RSVP Charlotte 0437 017 296

St Mary’s P&F Trivia Night

Name _________________________
Number of adults attending ______
Team name if entering as part of a team __________________________
Number of children attending _____
I have attached $___ for children.

We would love you to “Like” our Facebook page. The easiest way to find it is to go to our website www.stmaryshamilton.org.au and click on the Facebook link on the left hand side, alternatively go straight to Facebook and search for St Mary’s Catholic Parish, Hamilton, Victoria.

Parents and Friends

Canteen Roster Term 3

19/8/15 Michelle Ferey
26/8/15 Cathy Ferguson
2/9/15 Jenni Taylor
9/9/15 Cathy Ferguson
16/9/15 Michelle Ferey

Friday 28th August @ 6.30pm
Dunworth Centre
BYO drinks and nibbles
Only 2 weeks until the St Mary’s Trivia Night!
Please come along and support this event. It will be a fun and social night and an opportunity to mingle with other parents. Please return the slip below by next week to indicate your support.
Child minding is provided
$5/one child or $10/family

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