God of all peace, help us to build your Kingdom. May our lives bear witness to the love, light, understanding and joy provided through the life of your Son, Jesus. May your great peace always reign in our hearts.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Another week has flown by, full of fantastic learning opportunities! Lots of tired children following our Gr 3/4 camp and the P/1/2 swimming program, so the weekend has arrived just in time! Gr 5/6 will participate in swimming next week.

Thanks to everyone for their support this week, have a wonderful weekend with your loved ones and we look forward to seeing you next week.

God bless you @
Terrielynn

Mission Day
This year’s Mission Day is on Friday 6th November.
This is one of the really special days on our school calendar where we all come together as a community to raise awareness and money for those in need. Many more details will follow in the coming weeks, especially to assist those who are new to our school. Stay tuned!

Rice Day
Last year when we were planning for Mission Day we were all very moved by the theme of the 2014 Mission Week which was WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE ALIVE. I remember we were devastated to think that children, just like the precious little ones here at school, have the sole purpose in their lives of

IMPORTANT DATES

**OCTOBER**

Sat 17th Working Bee 8.00 – 10.00am
Mon 19th – Fri 23rd
Gr 5/6 Swimming Program

Tues 20th Hooptime Regional – Juniors

Fri 23rd Parish family dinner Gr 5 @ 6.30pm
Mon 26th Swimming Sports 10.30am – 2.30pm

Tues 27th

Wed 28th Parish family dinner Gr 5 @ 6.30pm
Fri 30th P/1/2 late stay/sleepover

**NOVEMBER**

Tues 3rd Prep Transition 9.00 – 11.00am

Wed 4th Expo Parade safety briefing @ 7.00pm

Fri 6th Mission Day!

Tues 10th Prep Transition 9.00 – 11.30am

Prep Information meeting @ 7.00pm

Hooptime Regional – Seniors

Wed 18th Prep Transition 9.00am – 1.00pm

Fri 20th PSG meetings

Tues 24th – Wed 25th Gr 6 Transition activity @ Monivae

Wed 25th School Council @ 7.00pm
simply staying alive. It is very hard for us to comprehend that they can’t see a future for themselves beyond childhood. No dreams of being a nurse, truck driver or sports star for these children only the nightmare of trying to stay alive through war, famine and disease.

As a staff, we wondered how we could share this reality with our students; how we could walk in the shoes of these children for a short time. We decided that each year on the day before Mission Day we would have Rice Day. This year that day will be Thursday November 5th. This means that the children will have a bowl of rice to eat at 12.30pm for their lunch. We will provide the rice for the children and staff. On this day, the children will not have fruit or play lunch. A big breakfast and a big snack after school will be needed!! We ask that you support us in this very meaningful activity by talking to your child about the day and maybe by taking up the challenge to have rice for lunch too!

We will be looking for rice cookers on that day, so if you have one that you are happy to share with us for the day, please contact us next week.

Gr 3/4 Camp

By all accounts, the Grade 3/4s had a wonderful time on camp. The children were very excited by all they had experienced and were full of stories about the all they had seen and heard. A huge thank you to the staff and parents who assisted with this camp and made it possible. We greatly value your support of our camp program.

Experience OLSEL!

Advance notice of an evening to share our learning about oral language so far this year. Staff and students will work with parents and friends to give them an experience of the OLSEL (Oral Language to Support Early Literacy) framework we use throughout the school. Come along and learn from your children on Tuesday 27th October from 7.00pm

Parents and Friends Association

We had a wonderful evening on Wednesday at our wine and pizza meeting! Some great discussion was had about community activities for 2016 and we look forward to sharing some of these ideas with you all very soon. Look out for the next meeting, you would be very welcome!

Working Bee

A working bee will be held this Saturday 17th October from 8.00 – 10.00am. Please consider how you can support the work of our landscaping committee. We would love to see you there!

School Fees:

School fees have been sent home with this week’s newsletter.

As the end of the school year is fast approaching, can all accounts be settled as soon as possible. If you are experiencing difficulties with paying your fees, please contact Helen or Jo-Anne.

If you have a current payment plan for your fees there is no need to contact the school.

The swimming program is now shown on your account. Credits for membership, non-attendance etc will be adjusted on your account as soon as we receive the invoice from HILAC. Thank you.

THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!

Art Room Splashes!!

Hello all and thank you once more for supporting our Art Show ‘The Elements’ last term! It was a fantastic event with many in attendance and a great deal of fun had.

Framed Artworks Collection...If you purchased original artwork it is now framed and ready for collection at the school office. Alternatively you could allow your child to bring it home, but please be aware the frame covering is glass and not plastic. For those who still need to pay, you can drop $50 in when you collect the work. They look very professional and ready to hang in a special place!

Painting by Karen Annett-Thomas raffle... A reminder that the raffle is still open for the beautiful painting created by former student of Saint Mary’s and Bendigo artist Karen Annett-Thomas. Tickets can be purchased at the school office for only $1.00 for a couple more weeks. The raffle will be drawn mid-term. The painting is valued at around $400 and is part of Karen’s current body of work. Karen has a solo exhibition at the Bendigo Gallery next month. Check out details on the Bendigo Art Gallery website.

Donations of paint...I am looking for donations of any usable, unwanted exterior paints in various colours. If you happen to have any sample pots you no longer want I will happily accept them. Also white undercoat would be great.

Cheers Shelley

Week two started bright and early Monday morning with a very excited group of Grade 3/4 students boarding the bus bound for Sovereign Hill for camp. Over the two days the students took part in a number of activities which saw them identify with life on the goldfields in the 1850’s.

An education session gave the children the opportunity to dress as they would have on the goldfields and also saw them identify objects from that era and try to work out the modern day equivalent. The sound and light show was a big hit with the children as they learnt about democracy...
and justice. Gold panning was, as always, a favourite, with all the children finding their fortune in gold. Overall it was a jam packed, adventure filled couple of days which provided many learning activities for the children. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the children for their outstanding behaviour and of course our wonderful parent helpers Kylie Pearce, Jacquie Page, Dearne McMillan, Gemma Perkins and Rochelle Handreck, without whom the camp could not have gone ahead.

Lisa and John

Spelling Competition

Congratulations Spelling Bee participants!

Last night six students from Grades four to six travelled to Warrnambool for the Western District Spelling Competition. The competition this year was fierce with over 20 schools attending. St Joseph’s Warrnambool took home the aggregate trophy for 2015. Our students should be very proud of their efforts in being chosen for the team and I congratulate them on their enthusiasm and would like to thank them all for sacrificing some of their lunch times to prepare for the event.

Lisa Schurmann

ICAS

The results have been received for the final two International Competitions and Assessment for Schools this year – Mathematics and English. Congratulations to the students for their participation and final results. As always the students aimed to do their personal best in undertaking these challenges. Prior to starting the competitions the students engaged in their usual ritual of lots of chatter and laughter. It is great to see that they don’t take it all too seriously. Participation certificates for Mathematics and English were awarded to Genevieve Trotter, Lauren Borgmeyer, Edward de Salis and Oliver Hayes. Well done on your efforts in these competitions.

Congratulations to Saskia Schaap who received a Participation certificate for Mathematics and a Credit certificate for English.

Well done to Chloe Jones who was awarded a Merit certificate for English and in Mathematics a Credit certificate.

Bailey Borgmeyer was awarded a Merit certificate in Mathematics and a Distinction certificate for English. Bailey has been a regular participant in these competitions and these certificates are very well deserved.

Congratulations to Ayva Jones who received Distinction certificates for both Mathematics and English. Like Bailey, Ayva has participated in the ICAS each year. Well done on your achievements Ayva in your final competitions at St. Mary’s.

The information for the 2016 competitions will be in the school newsletter in first term, so please keep an eye out if your child may be interested in participating in these competitions.

Chris Minney

Sports News

Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival will be held on Monday the 26th October. The Grade 3-6 students will be having an early recess then will be bussed to HILAC for a 10.45am start. The carnival will finish by 2.00pm. The students in Grade 3-6 who are in Level 3 and above will choose their events in the coming week. The students are asked to enter at least two events. The students in Level 2 and below will be entered into the novelty events, which include the 15m kickboard race and the 15m seahorse sprint.

Please see the information note and the blue permission note which went home today for further details. If you can help support our swimming carnival please return the helper slip by next Wednesday, no special skills or training are required and any help will be truly appreciated!

Swimming Program

The Prep/One/Twos have enjoyed their week of swimming. Thank you to all the parent helpers who supported them and helped make changing go swimmingly!

Next week the Grade 5/6s get their turn in the pool. Please remember that during your child’s swimming week they are able to wear sports uniform every day to allow easier changing.

Hoop Time

Our first Regional qualifiers for HoopTime, the Grade 3/4 All Star Girls, will play in Hamilton on Tuesday 20th October. Thank you to Jacinta Donaldson who has kindly offered to coach the girls and Kylie Pearce for being our scorer. The girls have received their draw and information for the day. All the best girls - we hope you have a fantastic day!

Saturday Morning Netball

The St Marys Superstars started the Term 4 season with a terrific win! The girls played an amazing defensive game! They defeated the North Phoenix 10-3. Well done girls! Libby Fox was absolutely astounding in defence! Sophie Button also played a wonderful defensive game. Isabella Maleles took intercept after intercept, showing great strength and leadership on the court. Molly O’Brien opened up the centre court, making great leads into space.
Eliza Armstrong and Eliza Sobey teamed up beautifully in the goal ring. Eliza Armstrong shot some marvellous goals and displayed excellent encouragement to her younger team mates. This week the Superstars take on the North Dragons.

The Hamilton Netball Association (HNA) is currently looking for Saturday morning umpires and new committee members. If you think you might be interested in volunteering your time in seeing the HNA Junior Competition move forward, please contact David Eastwood on 0437 724 999 or Tanya Eastwood on 0407 093 059 or email dctmautoelectrics@bigpond.com OR you can go to the AGM being held at Pedrina Park on Wednesday 21st at 6.30pm.

**Morning Fitness**

In Week Four we will be starting whole school fitness on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8.55am prompt - 9.10am. Each grade will have a different activity to participate in on a fortnightly rotating roster. Activities include a sustained run, skipping, continuous relays and tagging games. The aim of this program is to provide all students with a positive, energetic start to the day, preparing them for learning. It is fitness based, not cooperative games or skill development, all students should increase their heart rate in these sessions. Parents, please feel free to wear your joggers and join in if you wish!

**Hamilton Vitality Fun Run**

The Hamilton Vitality Fun Run is being held on Sunday November the 8th. There are 5 different Fun Run options, including a 1.6km run for kids starting at 10.00am. Please see the ad below for further details. I agree with Mardi Gill, the coordinator, who said it would be lovely to see as many students as possible running in the fun run and promoting a healthy lifestyle. It is also an opportunity for talented athletes to obtain a scholarship, which will financially assist them in becoming the best at their chosen sport. If you have any further questions about the scholarship please see Miss Couchman.

**Parish News**

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**Parents and Friends**

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Please note that the Uniform Shop will now open on Tuesdays from 3.30pm due to Kellie’s new work commitments. Have you got some time once a week to help out with our Uniform Shop? Please contact Kellie or Jo-Anne for more information.