World Mission Month is celebrated every year in every country wherever there are Christians committed to building a better world for all of God’s people, a world where everyone has all they need to live a dignified and fulfilling life. It is the day on which we reflect on the urgency to proclaim the Gospel in our times. Missionary activity is, fundamentally, a going out of oneself in love, a reaching out to bring God’s love to everyone, especially the outcast and unloved.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

At this very busy time of the year I have been most impressed and pleased with the energy students are giving to their learning and the extra activities that have been on offer so far this term – swimming, excursions… What a great indicator for a wonderful end to the school year, which is (scarily) not far away!

With October marking Mission Month we are building the awareness and understanding of students around the various issues which face people across our world which makes life more difficult. We are also conscious of how fortunate we are and the opportunities we have to bring life’s joys to others.

Thanks for a great week!
God bless you 

Jo-Anne

Mission Day
This year’s Mission Day is on Friday 6th November. A note has been sent home to all families this week outlining the plans for the day. Classroom teachers are also preparing and sending home notes relating to their activities.
Mission Day continued…
Please note that we are discouraging the endless prizes that are awarded for the variety of competitions organised by students on the day. Our focus is trying to build awareness of the people we are raising money for rather than on extrinsic rewards for ourselves. Your support with this would be most appreciated.

Rice Day
As outlined in last week’s newsletter, on the day before Mission Day, **THURSDAY 5th NOVEMBER**, we will have Rice Day. 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!
- Could each student please bring a plastic bowl/plate and a fork/spoon to minimise our environmental impact.

Please let Terrielynn know if you would be available to cook rice at 12noon on that day. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Planning 2016
Staff are dedicating many hours to planning for next year to enable our school to support all students and present a challenging and engaging learning program. At this stage the details are general but in the coming weeks we will be determining classroom teachers and making decisions on how we can provide a rich curriculum.

Before the end of the year our aim is to provide some transition meetings for all grades to assist students and parents with the move from one grade to another (especially when it is from Junior to Middle or Middle to Senior areas). More information about these gatherings will be provided soon.

Experience OLSEL!
Hope you received your invitation to our OLSEL Family Night earlier this week! 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. Please RSVP to the school office.

Working Bee
Wow! How impressive do our school grounds look following the working bee last Saturday! Please see Marie’s report later in the newsletter for more details.
**Outdoor Committee – Working Bee Thankyou**

“They say that a sign of a good working bee is when you put a shovel down and go to pick it up and someone else is using it!”

Thank you so much to everyone who was involved in the working bee last weekend, your efforts in improving the environment of the school is truly appreciated.

With shovels, rakes, utes, trailers, wheel barrows, hoes, blowers, bobcat/mini-digger (whilst listening to some tunes) we achieved:

- Moving 50 cubic metres of bark chips to garden beds throughout the school weeding, pruning trees and bushes on Hiller Lane to increase vision for entering the school, planted approximately 100 new plants, de-cobwebbed the school, moved rocks from the front of the school to the Art Room area garden, beautified the Art Room outside area, and then also got to enjoy a scrumptious bacon and egg roll to ensure our energy was replaced!

As they say, many hands make light work and this was certainly the case. Thank you to the following families:

- Susie, Mark, Nicholas O’Brien, Vicki Button, Ler Paw, Hta Dah Htoo San Ba, Naomi Turner, Anthony, Sam, Arlo and Darcy Walsh, Jonathon Rowe, Matt, Phoebe and Jodie Dunn, Carolyn, Craig, Harrison and Klay Collins, Mark, Harrison and Archie Purcell, Damien Lewis, Brendan and Jack Roberts, Lisa, Grace, Ruby and Annie Cleaver, Hamish, Marie, Fergus and Lachlan McDonald, Kerry Stevens, Terrielynn Groves, Megan and Craig Jackson, Leigh and Jesse Knight.

A big thank you again for your contribution and the equipment you brought along to make the tasks that bit easier. A special mention to Leigh Knight who brought the bobcat/mini-digger along as it made moving those two huge piles of bark chips much easier and saved us from more blisters.

What’s next? The outdoor committee have collated ideas for further landscaping and improvements to outdoor areas including an undercover area for play times. These will be taken to the next School Advisory Council for their input and ideas. We will also, in the near future, be seeking input and ideas from the parent community before a final plan is drafted so please stay tuned!

Marie McDonald

**PASTORAL CARE**

We are already third week into the term and there are now only 66 sleeps to go until Christmas!

On a different note please see attached information regarding some free online training I thought may interest some parents.

Just a reminder that my working days are Wednesday thru to Friday and I am available for meeting or just conversing on those days. My phone number is 0400 994 032.

Kind regards
Lisa Gonnet

**THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!**

**Grade Prep**

Last week we have been swimming. We did sculling arms and we did backstroke.

Jack Mansbridge

**Grade 1/2**

This term we have introduced ‘Read to Someone’ into our literacy block. We spent the first couple of weeks learning about how we read to someone and how we could be ‘coaches’ to other members of our team. This week we have started our ‘Read to Someone’ and the teachers have been blown away! The children have been so engaged and have shown some fantastic coaching skills with their ‘good fit’ partners. The children can also explain the steps they need to follow for read to someone - have a chat with your 1/2 child to find out more!

**Grade 3/4**

“Now we are giving the liquid flavour and colour,” the man said. Tayla and I were standing there, mouths drooling as we smelt and watched the lilies being made.

All of a sudden Tayla and I found ourselves dashing towards the counter for lollies. “The Sovereign Hill Lolly Shop sells the best lollies ever.” I say with a mouth full of sweets.

“I agree.” sighed Tayla, scoffing down lollies.

I would say that this is the best camp ever!

By Abbey Northcott

**Sports News**

**Swimming Carnival** Monday 26th October 10.45am-2.00pm HILAC

Our school swimming carnival is on Monday! Thank you to Mardi Mailes, Monique Sobey, Annita Jones, Jess Beattie, Kris Fox, Vicki Button and Cathy Ferguson for offering their help!

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 have chosen their events. The students...
in Level 2 and below have been entered into the novelty events, which include the 15m kickboard race and the 15m seahorse sprint.

If you can come and support our swimming carnival, for any length of time, on Monday please do- we would love to see you there!

Swimming Program
Thank you all students, parents and guardians for a wonderful three weeks of swimming! We have thoroughly enjoyed another fantastic year of swimming program. Please don’t let it another year before you practise your strokes or use your vital swimming skills again though!

Hoop Time
Well done to our Grade 3/4 All Star Girls, Keely, Caitlin, Amy, Molly, Ellen, Lauren, Sienna and Emily, who played on Tuesday in the Regional Finals. The girls started the day with a 12-4 win against Hawkesdale College, then had four more toughly fought out losses against St Thomas (2-12), St Joseph’s (4-16), SS Michael & John’s (5-9) and All Saints (5-15). Thank you to the girls who stepped up from the Future Stars to fill out the team. I was very proud to see the girls work as a team, encourage each other and give 100%. Thank you very much to Jacinta Donaldson, Kylie Pearce and the parents who supported the girls on the day! Your support and encouragement was fantastic and very much appreciated!

The Grade 5/6 All Star teams get their chance at the Regional Finals on Tuesday 10th November. Draws have been sent home with these students.

Morning Fitness
In Week Four, next week, 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 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, guardians and friends please feel free to wear your joggers and join in if you wish!

Saturday Morning Netball
The St Marys Superstars once again played a brilliant game and had a convincing win over the North Dragons. Once again we played a terrific defensive game. Keely Burland was sensational in the centre court and in defence. Tiana Fitzgerald played a great debut game for the season showing just how versatile she is at both ends of the netball court. The Jones sisters teamed up well in defence with Ayva in Goal Keeper and Chloe in wing defence. Caitlin Urquhart once again ran her legs off in the centre court and Amalie Rowe showed fantastic improvement by sticking with her player and making space in attack. This week the girls have been forfeited by the Gray Street Hawks.

Netball Victoria Clinic – Monday 26th October
There is a terrific netball clinic being held on Monday 26th October at Pedrina Park from 4.00pm -5.30pm for ages 5-12 years. The cost is $5 which includes giveaways. Please support this clinic if you can!

NetSetGo Coach Training – Monday 26th October
A NetSetGo Information Session including NetSet Go Coach Training and MyNetball Training is being held on Monday 26th October at Pedrina Park from 6.00pm-8.00pm, supper will be provided.

Thursday Night Tennis
Beginning this week, Thursday 22nd October, there is tennis running at the Lawn Tennis Courts for students in Grade 4, 5 and 6 from 4-5.30pm. The sessions will run for four weeks and cost $5 per person per session.

Australian Peddle Car Grand Prix
On the 18th of October I raced in the Australian Peddle Car Grand Prix. The Grand Prix is the only race in the Southern Hemisphere and it belongs to Coleraine. The race kicked off at 2pm and we raced until 4pm. The 1.3km track looked easy but was actually quite challenging. I was in car 29 and my team Holden racing team made 29 laps to give us 3rd place. It was great to see Tiana and Clay Fitzgerald and Saskia and Isabelle Schaap there on the day. I had a great time and risked my teams 3rd place by doing 2 laps at a time, but it payed off. I hope to see you all next year. Go the Holden racing team! Edward de Salis

Parish News

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Parish Stewardship Program
Please see the information being sent home with today’s newsletter. It would be wonderful to have you participate in our parish community and contribute some of your time and talents. Please return completed forms to the Parish Office or to school. You are more than welcome to contact the Parish if you would like more information.

St Mary’s Parish Stewardship Renewal
Invites your generous response. Support those who support you: Fr Paddy, Pastoral Associates, school masses, beautiful dinners at the parish, school building! Return your Stewardship Card via the parish or school.

Expo News! Expo Newsletter included with today’s school newsletter. Happy reading!