PRAYING LENT

LOVING GOD,
I hear your invitation, “COME BACK TO ME”
and I am filled with such a longing to return to you.
Show me the way to return.
Lead me this day in good works I do in your name
and send your Spirit to guide me and strengthen my faith.
I ask only to feel your love in my life today.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,
Ahhh! The long weekend. Hope you all have a
wonderful weekend – whatever your choice of
activity. Take the chance to recharge the batteries.

A great day on Monday for our Athletics Sports! Thank you to Elise Couchman, our Sports Co-
ordinator for her leadership and organisation of our
day.

It was fantastic to see the students demonstrating
improved skills in all events and doing their best
throughout the day.

The biggest celebration for the day, besides Rosaria
winning the Shield, was the outstanding
sportsmanship shown by students. I have received
many positive comments regarding the manners
and respect shown at each event and the
encouragement given to others – even in opposition
teams!!!!

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

Visitors during the school day
If you visit the school at any time between 8.55am
and 3.15pm you must report to the office! Please do
not make your own way to the learning spaces.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH
Mon 9th Public Holiday
 Tues 10th PSG meetings
 P&F Parent lunch
 Wed 11th – Fri 13th
 Gr 5/6 Camp @ Melbourne
 Fri 13th Ride to School Day
 Regional Swimming
 Mon 16th – Tues 17th Learning Conversations
 Fri 20th Reconciliation Workshop
 Tues 24th – Thurs 26th
 Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Tues 24th ACMA Cybersafety presentations
 Thurs 26th Division Athletics
 Fri 27th Last day of Term 1

APRIL
Mon 13th Start of Term 2!
 Thurs 16th 1-2-3 Magic Program 10.30 – 12.30
 Tues 21st P&F AGM @ 7.00pm
 Thurs 23rd 1-2-3 Magic Program 10.30 – 12.30
 Fri 24th P&F Lunch BBQ
 Thurs 30th 1-2-3 Magic Program 10.30 – 12.30
 Raising Teens 1.30 – 3.00
 Sacramental Parent m’ing @ 7.00pm
School Rules
All students are expected to follow our three main school rules:

Respect your school
Do your best
Help others to succeed

Learning Conversations
• Appointment slips will be sent home next week which will indicate your Learning Conversation time. Please contact the Office as soon as possible if there is a problem with your allocated time.
• This is an opportunity to have a discussion between parents, teachers and students relating to your child’s learning so far this year. It will also be a time to share learning directions and the results of Literacy and Numeracy testing conducted so far.
• Please bring your son/daughter along to their appointment time so he or she can be involved in the conversation.
• It is vital that you are punctual to these meetings to ensure that we can run the afternoons as smoothly as possible.

Centacare Programs
We are very fortunate to have Centacare running two programs at our school next term.
1-2-3 Magic and Emotional Coaching aims to create a more peaceful household, less arguing and fewer angry moments. This program will be held at St Mary’s on Thursday 16th April, 23rd April and 30th April from 10.30am – 12.30pm and is free of charge!! There are a few spaces left – please contact Jo-Anne or Centacare if you are interested or require further information.

Raising Teens is a program specifically for parents who have young people in Years 6, 7, 8 & 9. This program is also free of charge and will be held on Thursday 30th March 1.30 – 3.00pm at St Mary’s.

PROJECT COMPASSION
At St. Mary’s, one way we encourage our students to think of others before themselves, during LENT, is to contribute to Project Compassion, a mission run by Caritas Australia which is the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development.
Each child was given a small box to take home on Wednesday. This is their Project Compassion Box. Please place it prominently in your home and encourage the students to contribute what money they can to Project Compassion by placing coins in their box. Then return the Project Compassion Box, with the money inside, to school. This year, all Project Compassion Boxes are due back to school no later than Wednesday, 15th April 2015. (Week 1, Term2).

Ride to school day
I give permission for my child to participate in the Ride to School activity.
...........................................................................................................................................(parents signature)
**The Sport Catch Up with Miss Couchman.**

Thank you everyone for an amazing Athletics Day! We certainly proved T.E.A.M work! Together Everyone Achieves More! Feel free to check out our photo display in the student entry over the next few weeks, displaying the outstanding photographic skills of Brendan Roberts.

**House Athletics**

Wow! What a day! Fantastic weather, fantastic sporting skills, fantastic encouragement and fantastic support! Thank you everyone for making Athletics Day a wonderful day! Together we provided all our students the chance to compete in a competitive, yet supportive environment. Primary school athletics days allow all students the opportunity to try all the different track and field events an athletics day has to offer, regardless of ability. They are also days many students remember fondly for years. So thank you to everyone who positively supported our Athletics Day in any way, from encouraging your child in the days leading up to the event or by cheering on your child on the day. This year we saw a different house take out the House Shield, but it wasn’t Loreto much to Miss Bond’s disappointment! We also saw many close Age Champion totals, with a 1 point difference in two age groups! Well done to our Champions and to everyone who showed good sportsmanship, tried their hardest and had fun!

**Thank yous!**

I would like to especially thank our Monivae Helpers, who are completing their Sport and Recreation certificate: Brady, Daniel, Cooper, Zac, Tom, James, Matt, Aiden, Ethan, Amy and Aman. Thank you to the teachers, aides and office staff for running the events this year, not an easy task but well executed. Thank you to the parents/grandparents/carers who walked age groups around and/or helped on events, your role was vital in the smooth running of the day. I truly hope you enjoyed watching your aspiring athletes! A final bitter sweet thank you to Cathy Ferguson who completed her final Athletics Day recording role, after many years volunteering in this job, we will greatly miss your expertise and magnificent support.

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**House Shield**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Rosaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Lourdes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Fatima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Loreto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age Sportsmanship Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sportsmanship Awards Boys</th>
<th>Sportsmanship Awards Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>Jack Sobey</td>
<td>Kellies San Ba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>Jono Beattie</td>
<td>Bridget Mailes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 yrs</td>
<td>Tate Snell</td>
<td>Caitlin Urquhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Noah Mulley</td>
<td>Chloe Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 yrs</td>
<td>Cade Price</td>
<td>Sophie Trotter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &amp; over</td>
<td>Nick Ferguson</td>
<td>Demi Taylor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age Grade One & Two Championship**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Grade One &amp; Two Championship Boys</th>
<th>Grade One &amp; Two Championship Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>Jack Sobey</td>
<td>Griet Rowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>Hugh Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Grace Cleaver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Championship Medal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Championship Medal Boys</th>
<th>Championship Medal Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 yrs</td>
<td>Jack Jennings</td>
<td>Keely Burland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Deacon White</td>
<td>Eliza Sobey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 yrs</td>
<td>Jason Hawker</td>
<td>Eliza Armstrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &amp; over</td>
<td>Sam Crawford</td>
<td>Ayva Jones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**District Athletics**

District Athletics is being held on Tuesday 17th March, for the students who have qualified from their results on our day, I will be sending home information and permission notes ASAP.

**Hockey Clinic**

Thank you to Gabby and Ellie from Hockey Victoria for conducting a fantastic hockey clinic for the Grade Three/Fours! Please see Jack’s report for further information about their session.

**Saturday Morning Netball**

Thank you to Keely, Lachlan and Nicholas for filling in for the Superstars last week. We played another great defensive game. Lachlan was amazing in Centre! Ayva used her ‘go-go gadget’ arms beautifully in the goal circle. Isabella Mailes played a great game in Wing Defense. Keely did a super job in all her defensive positions. The highlight of the game for me was the huge improvements seen in Klay, she was getting in front and fighting for the ball! Well done girls, you are all improving every week! Remember we have the week off for the long weekend.

**Next Week**

Stay tuned for a Division Swimming Report!

I’m looking forward to a wonderful year of sport at St Mary’s. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any sport related queries at school or email me at ecouchman001@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

Thank you in advance for your terrific support this year!

Miss Couchman 🎉
THE WORD ON THE LEARNING STREET!

1/2
The best thing about our new learning spaces is: It is easier to work at the standing table ~ Jude
Some spots are really comfy to work in ~ Michaela
It’s fun because you get to work in all different kinds of places ~ Holly

3/4
Last Friday the 3/4s did a hockey clinic on the turf at school. The girls who took the clinic were Ellie and Gabby. First we learnt how to dribble the hockey balls with a hockey stick. The first game we played was Rob the Nest and Ellie and Gabby tried to stop us from stealing the eggs. After Rob the Nest we played Robbers and we had to try and dribble the hockey ball while Gabby and Ellie tried to steal it. Hockey is fun and I really enjoyed it.

By Jack Jennings

5/6
On Wednesday the Grade 5/6 students went to a Parliament Session at the Conference Centre where the students experienced ‘Passing a Bill’ through Parliament. One group passed in a ‘new law’ that plastic bags should be banned in shops and the other group decided that fast food advertisements on TV should be banned during the hours children watch TV. Students were selected to role play what it is like to be the Speaker, Premier, Opposition Leader and Sergeant at Arms. It was a great educational excursion, making us excited about our trip to Parliament House on camp!

SPALSHES FROM THE ART ROOM

Term One is well underway and we are busily splashing paint around, making marks, experimenting with lines, shape and colour! The resulting artworks will eventually appear on the children’s journal covers, front and back. Our new preps have settled in beautifully and are proving to be an artistically gifted group of course! They have been learning about mixing ‘superhero’ colours-red, yellow, blue on their head silhouettes and pasting, overlapping and following the lines to create their name artwork.

Anyone who would like to help out in art classes will be welcomed with open arms! Art days are: Prep-2 on Tuesdays and 3-6 on Wednesdays.

Donations of cardboard rolls over the next few weeks would be appreciated. Ideal rolls are: gladwrap, foil, paper towel, gift wrap. NO TOILET ROLLS PLEASE!!!!

The Biannual Saint Mary’s Art Show will be held late Term 3. All of the artwork created by the children up until then will be held at school so we have a collection to choose from. Stay tuned for future news!!!!

ICAS Entries
International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2015 ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3 to 12 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. The tests are an excellent preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child’s strengths and weaknesses. All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

The entry fee per student is as follows:
- Digital Technologies - 19 May 2015 ($8.80)
- Science - 3 June 2015 ($8.80)
- Writing - 15 June 2015 to 19 June 2015 ($18.70)
- Spelling - 16 June 2015 ($12.10)
- English - 28 July 2015 ($8.80)
- Mathematics - 11 August 2014 ($8.80)
- All of the above ($66.00)

If you are interested in your child participating in these assessments please collect an entry form from the Office. Entries and payment are now due by Tuesday 10th March. Late entries will not be accepted.

Chris Minney

Parents and Friends

Canteen Roster term 1
11/3/15  Jen Taylor
18/3/15   Michelle Ferey
25/3/15   Jen Taylor

Parish News

MASS TIMES - 2014

Hamilton:       Saturday 6pm
Dunkeld:        Sunday 9am
Glenthompson:   Sunday 9am
Penshurst:      Sunday 9am
Macarthur:      Sunday 9am

Zooper Doper Friday

Last week we sold icy poles outside the big windows. We made a total of $98.00. We are again selling them on Fridays until the end of term. Icy poles will be $1.00 each. Any donations count.

BY TAYLOR BOWIE AND ELIZA ARMSTRONG

NAB Hamilton Auskick will commence at Pedrina Park on Saturday 18th April at 9:00am concluding Saturday 20th June 2015. Go to www.aflauskick.com.au to register. More details soon!!!