Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Welcome to Term 2! It was great to welcome staff, students and families back to school after a great holiday break. Staff have already planned lots of very rigorous learning experiences for us all to stretch our brains this term. There are also a number of extra-curricular events scattered throughout the term. Please make sure you check out the ‘Important Dates’ and add relevant ones to your family calendar. A reminder that I am always happy to have a chat with parents and friends at any time. Sharing celebrations, worries, concerns and answering queries are most important so that we can maintain a team approach to supporting students. Please give me a call or make a time for a conversation.

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

Christ Jesus you are alive.
Come and rest in our classrooms.
May they be places of learning.
May they be places of understanding.
May they be places of friendship.
May they be places of peace.

Christ Jesus you are alive.
Come and rest in our playgrounds.
May they be places of fun.
May they be places of friendship.
May they be places of achievement.
May they be places of peace.

Christ Jesus you are alive.
Come and rest with our families.
May they be places of love.
May they be places of care.
May they be places of friendship.
May they be places of peace.

FRIDAY 20TH APRIL, 2018 ISSUE 10

IMPORTANT DATES

**APRIL**
- Fri 20th: Parish family dinner – Preps
- Wed 25th: Public holiday – ANZAC Day

**MAY**
- Wed 2nd: School Council meeting & AGM
- Fri 4th: Parish family dinner – Grade 1
- Wed 8th: OLSEL Family Night @ 6.30pm
- Fri 11th: Cross country
-  Mothers’ Day High Tea @ 2.00pm
- Tues 15th – Thurs 17th: NAPLAN – Gr 3 & 5
- Thurs 17th: District cross country
- Sun 20th – Fri 25th: Catholic Education Week

Sun 20th: Sacrament of Confirmation
Mon 21st: Pupil free day – staff PD
Wed 23rd: Open Morning 9.30 – 12.30
Attachments to this week’s Newsletter:
1. Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) Survey information
2. School Fees

Advance notice:
- Mon 4th June  Step into Prep
- Tues 26th June  School Photos!
- Fri 27th July  Grandparents’ Day
- Mon 6th Aug  Pupil free day
- Fri 31st Aug  Fathers & Footy Day
- Tues 18th Aug  School Concert!

Enhancing Catholic School Identity Surveys
Last term you would have received a letter inviting you to complete a survey relating to the Catholic Identity of our school. Thank you to the three families who have completed this task so far. For a valid sample we require a total of 48 families to contribute. The data we gather from this survey is very important to the work we do as a school to continually improve what we do in order to benefit students and families. Your input would be both appreciated and valued. Although the survey takes time to complete and makes you think about your responses - it is manageable. Please consider how you can contribute to the strategic planning of your school. Please note that you do not have to be Catholic to complete the survey - it is about your school and how your children are supported to grow. It also doesn’t matter if you are in your 1st year as a parent at St Mary’s or your 21st!

I have again attached the letter and instructions to support you. Please disregard the dates of the workshops that were offered. If you would like some help in completing the survey please contact the office as soon as possible - I am happy to make time for you. Please note that surveys must be completed by Friday 27th April. I would love to see a huge improvement in the participation data next time I log in. Thanks for your consideration and support.

Best Wishes
Miss Kerry Stevens is currently enjoying some well-deserved long service leave over the first two weeks of this term. We hope she is soaking up the sunshine!

Congratulations
Very exciting news from the Sherlock home on the arrival of a baby brother for Taya (Prep) during the holidays! Their new little man is getting lots of attention from his big sisters. Congratulations to Pat and Hayley.

Prayers
Our sympathy is extended to Vicki Pierce, one of our valued teacher aides, following the death of her aunt last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with Vicki and her family.

Our thoughts are also with the Pearce family following a tragic accident involving Kylie’s partner Gary during the holidays. Emily (Gr 6) and Claire (Gr 5) have been very well supported over the past week. We keep the family in our prayers and hope to see Gary home in Hamilton soon.

Welcome!
This week we have welcomed Ella Pevitt (Gr 3) and Ava Ryan (Gr 1) to St Mary’s. We are excited that you and your families have chosen St Mary’s as your educational community. We hope you are settling in well and feeling welcomed!

School Fees
School Fees have been sent home with today’s newsletter. If you would like to set up a Direct Debit payment for your school fees, I have included our bank details on your statement. If you have any queries or concerns or you would like help to set up a payment plan, please contact Helen at the office.

Uniform
Term 2 brings the changeover from summer to winter uniform, depending on the weather. As the weather is quite unpredictable at the start of the term, please gauge the forecast yourself and make an informed decision on the uniform you will send your children to school in for the first couple of weeks of term. Notice will be provided in the newsletter next term regarding an official change to winter uniform.

Journals
Learning journals were sent home with students at the end of last term! Please enjoy the pages from term 1, write a comment praising your child’s growth and return to school as soon as possible.

You are invited!
An invitation went out to all families earlier this week for a few events coming up soon. Please RSVP for the OLSEL Family Night on Wednesday 8th May and our Mother’s Day High Tea on Friday 11th May.

End of day pick up
The office has been a very hectic place between 3.00 and 3.15 this week due to parents arranging how students are travelling home. Please ensure that your children know how they are getting home at the end of each day to alleviate stress and confusion for them.
If arrangements alter please contact the office before 2.30pm so that messages can be given to students and our procedures can be followed. Thanks for your support in this area.

ANZAC Day
Students are encouraged to attend the local ANZAC services on Wednesday 25th April to show respect, appreciation and honour to all who have served our country in times of war and peace. The Hamilton services are scheduled for 6.30am and the march starting at around 10.00am in Gray St. A service will begin when those marching arrive at the Cenotaph at Melville Oval. Our school captains, Nick Trotter and Macey Bowie, will represent St Mary’s at the later service.

St Mary’s Primary School
School Advisory Council AGM
Wed 2nd May @ 6.30pm
at Roxburgh House
All parents, staff and friends are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the School Advisory Council. The agenda of the meeting will be the presentation of reports and election of one new Council members followed by some social time. The St Mary’s School Advisory Council has one parent vacancies for the period of April 2018 to April 2020 Nominations are due by Monday 30th April.

NOMINATIONS FOR ST MARY’S SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL 2018

I ______________________
would like to nominate _____________
as a member of the St Mary’s School Advisory Council.
Signature of person nominating:

I ______________________
accept this nomination.
Signature of person nominated:

Dated: _________

Assembly
Assemblies are held every second Friday in our Learning Street @ 2.40pm.
Our next assembly will be Friday 27th April.
All welcome!

Parish News

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Parish Family Dinner - Grade 1 Friday 4th May
St Mary’s Parish have sent Invitations to Grade 1 family’s inviting them to a Family Dinner, this is a great occasion to meet other Grade 1 parents. When you receive the invitation please remember to RSVP, as this helps with catering.

CANTENE ROSTER
25/04/2018  Anzac Day – Public Holiday
02/05/2018  Cass Young
09/05/2018  NO CANTENE as there is no Volunteer

- Can you help with our Canteen Roster?
- Please note that if there are no parent volunteers there will be no lunch orders available on that day.
- If you are interested in finding out what is involved, please contact the office.

MINDFULNESS FOR PARENTS
Starting in week 2 of term 2 I will be holding weekly mindfulness classes for parents. The classes will run for the term and will be from 2.45 to 3.15. We will look at different aspects of mindfulness, including being mindfully aware of our bodies, our environment, listening and of course breathing, as well as completing a weekly journal. We will also look at how our mind works and how what we think contributes to our overall sense of wellbeing.
If you would like more information, please contact me Lisa Gonnet, on 0400994032.

THE SPORT CATCH UP
Coles Sports for Schools
We have until the beginning of June to send any last vouchers back, so please if you have any lying around place them in the box in the student entry as soon as you can. Thank you!

Division Athletics
We have 7 students representing St Mary’s at Division Athletics in Warrnambool today. We wish these students all the very best and know they will represent our school with great passion and determination.
Macey Bowie – 200m, 100m and Discus
Grace Cleaver- Hurdles, 200m and 100m
Tiago Gaio- Hurdles and Long Jump
**High Tea!**

Mums, Nannas and special friends are invited to celebrate Mother’s Day.

**Friday, 11 May**

2 O’CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY 27TH APRIL

MOTHER’S DAY RSVP
NAME:
NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING:

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**School Cross Country**

Our School Cross Country is being held on Friday the 11th May and we cannot wait! The Grade 3-6 students will participate in running between 2 to 3 kilometres at Lake Hamilton. The buses will arrive to take us to the lake at 12.30pm and the events should begin between 1.00-1.30pm. Our Cross Country will finish up with a ribbon presentation for the top three place getters in each age group at the Lake, weather permitting. Allowing us to be back at school by 2.30pm.

We would love some help at the finish line to collect tags. We need around 7 parent helpers, so if you are keen please let Miss Couchman know.

An information letter, parent helper slip and a permission note will be coming home next week!

**Thank you for your continued support in keeping your kids healthy and active!**

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**Hamilton Auskick**

Commencing April 21st 9am
Pedrina Park
Open to girls and boys from Kindergarten to Grade 6
Register Now.

**TO REGISTER FOR NAB AFL AUSKICK,**
**FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS ONLINE:**
1. Visit play.afl/auskick
2. Enter your school into the centre locator
3. Select the centre you would like to attend
4. Complete the registration process

**MOVING FORWARD**
Post Separation Program

A 3-week program that will explore:
1. The grief process for adults and children
2. Strategies to understand reactions and improve communication with children
3. Strategies to improve communication with the other parent
4. The importance of looking after yourself post separation

Included in this program is the option for 2 individual sessions with a Centacare counsellor.

**Date:** TBC – Expressions of Interest currently being taken
**Time:** 6:30 – 8:30pm
**Venue:** Warrnambool, Portland, Hamilton
**Cost:** $20
**Bookings:** Centacare Family and Community Services
Family Relationship Educator
Marea Sholly
Phone: (03) 5559 3000
Email: marea.sholly@centacarewarrnambool.org.au

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**ANZAC DAY**

LEST WE FORGET