God of love and liberty,
we bring our thanks this day
for the peace and security
we enjoy, which was won for us
through the courage and devotion
of those who gave their lives
in time of war.
We pray that their labour and
sacrifice may not be in vain,
but that their spirit may live on in us
and in generations to come. That the
liberty, truth and justice which they
sought to preserve may be seen and
known in all the nations upon earth.
This we pray in the name of the one
who gave his life for the sake of the
world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,
A busy but shortened week this week with our pause
to pay respect and honour to those who have given
so much to the peace of our nation. Students have
been learning about the meaning of ANZAC Day in a
variety of ways over the past week with some
beautiful artworks lining our learning spaces.
Thank you to Macey Bowie and Nick Trotter, our
school captains, who proudly represented our school
community at the service on Wednesday by
respectfully laying a wreath.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**MAY**

- Wed 2nd: School Council meeting & AGM
- Fri 4th: Parish family dinner – Grade 1
- Tue 8th: OLSEL Family Night @ 6.30pm
- Fri 11th: Cross country;
  - Mothers’ Day High Tea @ 2.00pm
- Tues 15th – Thurs 17th:
  - NAPLAN – Gr 3 & 5
  - District cross country
- Sun 20th – Fri 25th:
  - Catholic Education Week
    - Sacrament of Confirmation @ 10.30am
    - Pupil free day – staff PD
    - Open Morning 9.30 – 12.30
    - National Simultaneous Storytime day
    - Information meeting @ 6.30pm
    - SW Network Mass & lunch – Gr 5 & 6
Thank you to those families who took the time to participate in our Catholic Identity survey over the last month or so. I appreciate the time that you gave to this task. However, I was rather disappointed with the overall response from parents with only a 6% response rate. I am hoping that next time we ask for input parents take the opportunity to be involved in their school’s improvement.

Thanks for a great week!
God bless you!

To Anne

Attachments to this week’s Newsletter:
- School Attendance

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 Sept  School Concert!

Uniform
With temperatures in the mid-20s predicted for next week I am still happy for you to make decisions on which uniform to dress your children in. Notice will be provided in the newsletter regarding an official change to winter uniform. Please make sure that your children are wearing the correct uniform and wearing it correctly. Sneakers are to be worn with sports uniform only. Jewellery is not to be worn – exception of a watch and earrings – small sleepers or studs in school colours.

You are invited!

**Mother’s Day High Tea**

Mums, Grandmas and special friends are invited to our Mother’s Day High Tea on Friday 11th May @ 2.00pm.

A reminder to RSVP to the Office by Friday 27th April!

Experience OLSEL!
Hope you received your invitation to our OLSEL Family Night last 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, 8th May** from 6.30pm. Please RSVP to the school office.

Journals
Have you sent your child’s Learning Journal back to school yet? If not please do so as soon as possible so that this term’s learning can be included.

Coles Vouchers
What amazing support you have given for the Coles School Vouchers program. If you still have vouchers at home please send them in no later than next Friday 4th May.

Work Experience
Next week we are looking forward to welcoming three work experience students from Monivae: Vania McCaskill, Aimee Perkins and Meg Sutherland. We are always proud when ex-students come back to continue to be part of the learning here at our school. Wishing you a great week ladies!

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 member 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 11th May.
All welcome!

Parish News

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<th>Parish News</th>
<th>MASS TIMES – 2017</th>
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<td>Hamilton:</td>
<td>Saturday 6pm</td>
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Parish Family Dinner - Grade 1 Friday 4th May
St Mary’s Parish have sent Invitations to Grade 1 families 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.

Canteen Roster
02/05/2018 Cass Young
09/05/2018 NO CANTEEN as there is no Volunteer
16/05/2018 Cass Young

- 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.

Pastoral Care
Welcome back to term 2. For the next few weeks I will be sharing an article by Michael Grose on encouraging independence in young children. I hope you find this helpful, I know letting go and encouraging independence can be challenging.

Easy ways to develop independence in kids
If you are anxious about your child’s safety and tend to be more protective than you want, then start creating JUNIOR VERSIONS of independent living, so that kids can learn to stand on their own two feet rather than be dependent on you.

A major challenge for parents is to find ways of safely moving children from being reliant on adults to a position of independence. This can be tough because your natural instinct is to nurture them. Training for independence starts from a young age and continues into adolescence and beyond.

Developing independence is one of the best ways to promote self-confidence.

When you teach children to do jobs for themselves, you send a powerful message that you believe that they are capable. Your actions speak louder than words.

Developing independence in kids can be tricky these days.
I will continue this article next week. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to make contact.

Mindfulness Meditation began this week, there are still places so it’s not too late to join us, again, if you want more information please ask. I look forward to seeing you.

Have a great term

Regards, Lisa Gonnet
Schools pastoral care worker
0400994032

The Sport Catch Up
Division Athletics
We had 7 students represent St Mary’s at Division Athletics in gloriously sunny Warrnambool last Friday. All our students represented our school wonderfully. It was incredible to watch them and we are all immensely proud of their efforts. Tiago, Grace and Jack started the day off with a bang! Placing in the top 6 for their events. Then throughout the day we had many more top 6 placings. The 11 Year Girls had a dream run in their relay heat, coming first and placing fourth overall! Thank you to all the parents who supported their children at this event, we appreciate the precious time and passionate energy you give your children.

Results:
Macey Bowie – 200m (11th), 100m (12th) and Discus (5th)
Grace Cleaver - Hurdles (1st), 200m (6th) and 100m (6th)
Tiago Gaio - Hurdles (5th) and Long Jump (3rd)
Jack Sobey - 800m (3rd) and 200m (12th)
11 Year Girls Relay (4th) – Grace Cleaver, Bridget Mailes, Ava Sobey and Drew Garratt.

Children who finished in the top 6 in Track and top 3 in Field will progress onto Regional Athletics, being held in Ballarat on October 12th. Congratulations to Grace, Tiago and Jack!
St Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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. The 9 and 10 year olds will be running two kilometres and the 11 and 12 year olds will be running three kilometres at Lake Hamilton. The buses will arrive to take us to the lake at 12.45pm and the events should begin between 1.00-1.15pm. 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.

A detailed information letter, parent helper slip and a permission note came home.

Please return the permission note and any helper slips by Friday 4th May.

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

Miss Couchman 🙏

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