God of love and liberty,
We bring our thanks today
for the peace and security we enjoy
and for those who laid down
their lives to defend them.
We remember those who, in time of war,
faithfully served their country.
We pray for the families and for ourselves
whose freedom was won at such a cost.
Make us a people passionate for peace,
and hasten the day when nation
shall not lift up arms against nation.
We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,
Won’t it be great to have a full week next week!

We were incredibly proud of our school captains
Keely Burland and Noah Mulley on the outstanding
way they shared their thoughts about Anzac Day at
the service on Tuesday. Their enthusiasm, sincerity
and confidence was a great example to all in our
community.

Happy birthday to us! Yesterday we marked six years
since we began our learning at Hiller Lane!

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

Advance notice:
- Fri 12th May Mother’s Day High Tea
- Fri 21st July Grandparents’ Day
- Tues 25th July School photos
- Fri 1st Sept Fathers & Footy Day

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY
Thur 4th Anointing Mass 3/4GW Eventide 9:30am
Fri 5th Cross Country @ Lake Hamilton
Fri 5th Prep Parish Dinner
Tues 9th – Thurs 11th NAPLAN – Grades 3 & 5
Fri 12th Mother’s Day High Tea @ 2.00pm
Thurs 18th District Cross Country
Mon 22nd – Fri 26th Catholic Education Week!
Mon 22nd Open Morning 9.30 – 12.30
Wed 24th National Simultaneous Storytime
Fri 26th Division Cross Country

JUNE
Fri 2nd Confirmation workshop
Sun 4th Sacrament of Confirmation
Mon 5th Step Into Prep 9.30–1pm
Mon 5th 2018 Information Session 6.30pm
Mon 12th Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Fri 30th End of Term 2
School Fee Notices
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. Thank you.

Professional Development Day
On Monday we hosted 65 teachers from around our region for a Professional Development Day in Religious Education. Our teachers found the day to be most informative, giving many strategies and ideas to be used in the classroom.

Uniform
Term 2 brings the changeover from summer to winter uniform, depending on the weather. We expect that all students will be in their correct and full winter uniform by Monday 8th May.

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.

NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas of:

- reading
- writing
- language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- numeracy.

NAPLAN tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum. All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests.

Support can be arranged for students who require it, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school. Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

Please contact Jo-Anne or Chris Minney if you have any queries concerning this year’s NAPLAN program.

School Advisory Council AGM
Our School Advisory Council AGM was held on Wednesday night. A sincere thank you to Megan McLeish and Marie McDonald for their contribution to the council, as they finish their terms. Congratulations to David Knight, whose nomination was accepted as a new parent representative. We still have another vacancy, with nominations still being accepted.

The members of our 2017 School Advisory Council are:

- Chairperson: Rhys Colliton
- Vice-Chairperson: Jonathan Rowe
- Parent Representative: David Knight
- Staff Representative: Kerry Stevens
- Parish Representative: John Hockey
- Ex-officio: Fr Paddy Mugavin, Jo-Anne Bond, Terriellynn Groves and Helen O’Brien

School Grounds
You may have noticed how wonderful our school grounds are looking! Currently, our chook house and garden beds are being relocated to allow for more student interaction.

Student Health
We have recently installed hands-free foaming soap dispensers in all toilets. Please have a chat with your children about the importance of using them.

Parish Family Dinners
Parish Family Dinners begin again next Friday 5th May. These dinners are a great opportunity for families to gather together in a social setting that is hosted by Fr Paddy and the Parish. Please RSVP when you receive your invitation. The first dinner is for the Preps and their families.

Assembly
Assemblies are held every second Friday starting at 2.40pm.

Our next assembly will be Friday 12th May.

All welcome!
Parish News

MASS TIMES – 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Saturday 6pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sunday 10.30am</td>
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<td>Dunkeld</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
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<td>Glenthompson</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penshurst</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macarthur</td>
<td>Sunday 8.30am</td>
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Parents and Friends

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening times: Every second Monday 3.15 – 3.45pm

Monday 1st May

Purchases can be made by attending the Uniform Shop or by placing an order with payment at the front office. EFTPOS available.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/5/2017</td>
<td>Jen Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/5/2017</td>
<td>Bonnie Goss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/5/2017</td>
<td>Volunteer needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that if there are no parent volunteers there will be no lunch orders available on that day. If you would like to volunteer please put your name on the roster at the front office. We urgently need some new faces on our roster for our canteen to continue. Jen Taylor is more than happy to show you the ropes for your first time.

Pastoral Care

Hello, the sun is shining and the sky is blue as I write but it’s been good to see the rain we’ve been needing it haven’t we? This week we look at the second point of Teaching your child resilience, again I hope you find it of interest.

Parenting tip #2: See the world through your child’s eyes

Imagine you had a difficult day. It wasn’t a catastrophic day, but some of your plans failed to materialise into reality. You failed to effectively navigate some relationship challenges with someone close. When you explained things to your spouse the response you received was, “Oh well, I guess you’ll just have to try harder again tomorrow.”

While this response may be correct, it is unlikely to help you feel any better. If you don’t feel better, you’re unlikely to ‘bounce-back’ with as much bounce! Likewise, giving advice when children are upset just makes them feel frustrated, or foolish. When they tell you they feel sad, saying “Cheer up, you’ll be ok. There’s no reason to feel like that!” will undermine their feelings, make them question their worth, and create a feeling that they are not normal inside them.

Instead, reflect their emotions and avoid advice or lectures.

“I can see it’s been a tough day for you today.”
“Wow, that must have made you feel really disappointed.”

When they know you understand them, ask them how they think you can help. Let them strategise the most effective way to overcome their challenges and support them in their decisions or guide them toward appropriate actions. Please feel free to make contact, no question too trivial. I’m always happy to assist in any way I can.

Kind regards

Lisa Gonnet
Schools pastoral care worker
0400994032

THE SPORT CATCH UP

Division Athletics
Well done to Hugh, Grace, Bailey, Rafael, Bridget, Ava and Drew who represented St Mary’s yesterday at Division Athletics in Warrnambool. We are so proud of your fantastic efforts and will report on your official placings next week. Thank you to Miss Forrest and the students’ parents who supported them on the day.

Aussie Footy - Thursday 4th May

Students from Grades 4-6 have been invited to participate in the Aussie Footy Lightning Premiership on Thursday 4th May. The students will leave school at 2.00pm and play against other Hamilton schools in a fun and encouraging modified footy format until 5.00pm. We are looking for two parent umpires to support these children. Could any volunteers please contact Miss Couchman. Blue notes need to be returned by Wednesday.
**CROSS COUNTRY – Friday 5th May**

Students in Grades 3-6 will compete in our school Cross Country to be held at Lake Hamilton on Friday, May 5th. We will travel by bus leaving from school at 12:45pm. The race will commence from 1:00pm. Students in the 9 and 10 year age groups will run 2 kilometres starting near the new playground and finishing at the boat sheds. The older students run 3 kilometres, starting from near the tennis courts and finishing at the boat sheds. Sports uniform is to be worn on this day. All students need to have their own water bottle. If your child suffers from asthma it is suggested that they carry their own Ventolin inhaler while running. Blue permission notes are coming home today, please ensure they are returned ASAP.

Thank you to the parents who have kindly offered their help already! We are still in need of a few more helping hands though, to collect name tags from the students at the finish line. Your help would be greatly appreciated and if you are able to help please fill out the Helper section in the newsletter and return it to the office on Monday 1st May.

Any parents who attend to watch, from the finish line at the boat sheds, are asked to park along Gray Street. This is to ensure the safety of the runners, so we do not have cars entering the boat shed area during the Cross Country. Ribbon presentations for the top 3 runners will take place at the Lake, in the case of bad weather they will take place back at school.

Miss Couchman 😊

**CROSS COUNTRY HELPERS**

I am able to help at the school Cross Country finish line from 1.00pm to 2.00pm on Friday, May 5th.

Name ___________________________

Phone __________________________

**LINK UP! – Can you help??**

We have a number of families we would like to support with a food parcel from our Link Up freezer but the cupboard is bare! If you can manage to contribute to this care initiative your support would be greatly appreciated. Please see Jo-Anne, Terrielynn or Monique Sobey if you have any queries.

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**An Evening with Nathan Wallis**

Tuesday May 16th 2017
7:30—9:00 The Hamilton Alexandra College Simons’ Auditorium

Cost: $5 Donation at the Door

Nathan Mikaere Wallis is an Educational Psychologist from New Zealand. In this parent workshop Nathan will share the latest neuroscience discoveries and the practical implications for the classroom and the home.

Nathan will speak about

*How the brain develops, works and matures including*
  *The Learning and Emotion Brain*

*What approaches and interventions work best for parenting and educating our children (0—18)*

*How to help and support our children to be successful, socially and emotionally competent young people.*

For more information please contact our school office.