Living the Gospel – Love One Another

Have you ever thought what it really means when Jesus commands us to love one another? At first, it seems like a simple commandment: I can love my family; my friends; I can even feel love for some people I’ve never met. But there was a condition that Jesus placed on the command: love one another as I have loved you. How did Jesus love? Without restriction and without seeking something in return. He loved those that no one loved and he even loved those who hated him and sought his downfall. Can I love those who hate me? Those that others ridicule and despise? Can I love without counting the cost?

Have you thought?

There is a wonderful line from the musical, Les Miserables, when the hero, Valjean, is told, ‘To love another person is to see the face of God.’ As Christian people, we believe that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. To look upon another person with love and compassion is to see the face of God revealed. When we are called to love, we are called to recognise that every single person is worthy of love and every single person is made in the image of God – even ourselves!

– Greg Sunter, Liturgy Help

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

The weeks are flying and the mornings are getting cooler – and what a relief to have some rain!

Students are well and truly into the learning of the term and teachers are putting so much time, teamwork and consideration into providing learning that targets the learning needs of each child.

Thanks for a great week!

God bless you!

To–Anne

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!

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

Tue 8th  OLSEL Family Night @ 6.30pm
Wed 9th  Expo meeting @ 5.30pm
Fri 11th  Cross country
Mothers’ Day High Tea @ 2.00pm
Tues 15th – Thurs 17th  NAPLAN – Gr 3 & 5
Wed 16th  Rescheduled SAC AGM @ 6.30pm
Thurs 17th  District cross country
Sun 20th – Fri 25th  Catholic Education Week

Sun 20th  Sacrament of Confirmation @ 10.30am
Mon 21st  Pupil free day – staff PD
Wed 23rd  Open Morning 9.30 – 12.30
National Simultaneous Storytime day
Information meeting @ 6.30pm
Thurs 24th  SW Network Mass & lunch – Gr 5 & 6
Attachments to this week’s Newsletter:
• NAPLAN Information Sheet – Gr 3 & 5
• National Consistent Collection of Data

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.
See you next week!

Experience OLSEL!

Hope you received your invitation to our OLSEL Family Night! 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. This is a great opportunity to be involved in the learning your children experience at school.

Come along and learn from your children on Tuesday 8th May from 6.30pm.
Please RSVP to the school office.

Uniform

I think the weather is finally turning. All students will be required to be in their correct winter uniform by Monday 14th May please.

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.

Parish Family Dinners

We are so blessed to have such a welcoming and hospitable parish community to belong to. I hope that Prep families enjoyed their dinner with Fr Paddy and other parishioners recently. Tonight is the turn of Grade 1 families. Thanks to the parish team for this generous event which helps to build connections.

Work Experience

Thanks to Vania McCaskill, Aimee Perkins and Meg Sutherland for working with us this week as part of their work experience. We hope you have enjoyed your week!

Assembly

Assemblies are held every second Friday
in our Learning Street @ 2.40pm.
Our next assembly will be Friday 11th May.
All welcome!

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This year’s assessments will take place on Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th May.

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.

Students in Grades 3 and 5 will bring home an information sheet today.
Please contact Jo-Anne or Chris Minney if you have any queries concerning this year’s NAPLAN program.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

The annual Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) collects information about Australian school students who receive an adjustment to address disability.

Nationally consistent information on students in Australian schools receiving adjustments for disability enables schools, education authorities, and governments to better understand the needs of students with disability and how they can be best supported at school.

The national data collection on students with disability acknowledges the work already undertaken in schools to support students with disability. It assists schools to identify and to support students with
disability so they can access and participate in education on the same basis as their peers. Please find attached an information sheet for Parents, Carers and Guardians as this mode of data collection will soon replace the current model of funding. If you have any questions relating to this matter please don’t hesitate to contact Jo-Anne or Terrielynn Groves.

Student Illness
We have had many students with gastro symptoms this week. Advice from the Department of Health states ‘As viral gastro is very infectious, it is advisable that people with symptoms do not work or attend child care centres, kindergartens or schools until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.’ Please speak with family members about the importance of washing hands thoroughly.

St Mary’s Primary School
School Advisory Council AGM
Rescheduled - Wed 16th 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.

Parish News

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Canteen Roster
09/05/2018 NO CANTEEN as there is no Volunteer
16/05/2018 Cass Young
23/05/2018 Jodi Nicholson
- 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 to week 3. For the next few weeks I will be sharing an article by Michael Grose on encouraging independence in young children.

Easy ways to develop independence in kids
Recently I heard a brilliant, yet deceptively simple idea that all parents can use to develop independence in their kids of any age. I attended an advanced presentation skills seminar, conducted by Australian professional speaker Glenn Capelli. Glenn said that many speakers complicated matters for audiences, making things too complex. One way of making it easy for audiences to learn is to create a JUNIOR VERSION of whatever we are talking about. He likened this to the way that many sporting bodies have now developed modified versions of adult sports, so kids can learn the basic skills of the sport in fun, enjoyable ways. I had one of those light bulb moments as I listened, and realised that effective parents create JUNIOR VERSIONS of the GAME all the time to help kids develop the skills of self-sufficiency and independence from a very early age. Here are some examples:
1. We get toddlers to smooth the doonas and arrange their teddies on their beds – that’s a JUNIOR VERSION of making a bed.
2. We encourage early primary school kids to make snacks, prepare breakfasts and help prepare a meal. That’s a JUNIOR VERSION of cooking an evening meal (To be continued next week).

Mindfulness classes for parents began last week. The classes will run for the term and will be from 2.45 to 3.15.
You can join any week, however there will be some continuity and for mindfulness to be of benefit some commitment will be necessary.
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 wish to participate or you would like more information please contact me Lisa Gonnet, on 0400 994 032.

Have a wonderful week.
Kind regards, Lisa Gonnet
Schools Pastoral Care Worker
0400 994 032

The Sport Catch Up
School Cross Country
Our School Cross Country is being held next Friday the 11th May! 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...
finish up with a ribbon presentation for the top three place getters in each age group at the Lake, weather permitting. This will allow us to be back at school by 2.30pm.

Thank you very much to Marie McDonald, Jessica Beattie, Vickie Button, Mel Gardner and Monique Sobey for their offers of assistance! We still require 2 more parent helpers however, to collect name tags in order at the finish line. If you can help us out please let Miss Couchman know, as soon as possible. Permission notes were due today. We will send home another copy today we still haven’t received your child’s.

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

Miss Couchman

BUCKLE UP AS

GRAMPIANS GRAPE ESCAPE IS THE ULTIMATE JOURNEY FOR ANY WINE & FOOD LOVER!

Got your tickets yet? Don’t forget:
✓ Gates open at 9:30am on Saturday for pre-paid ticket holders (half an hour early)
✓ Pre-paid ticket holders can pick up their festival pack (wristband, bag, program, tumbler) from the Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre Friday between 4:00-5:30pm to avoid queues all together 😊
✓ Pre-paid ticket holders will receive a 20% discount code to use for a period of time when 2019 tickets are released

Online bookings will shut off Friday at 11:59pm folks and then tickets will be available at the gate.

**Hamilton Netball Association are proud to run the**

**NET-SET-GO PROGRAM**

Commencing Saturday 21 July 2018 until Saturday 15 Sept 2018,
9.00am – 10.00am @ PEDRINA PARK,
9 weeks - $70 per child includes participant pack

– please register online via the NSG website or if you have trouble email krugs77@hotmail.com
For further information please contact Melissa Beaton on 0417 722 061 or email krugs77@hotmail.com

**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