“May today there be peace within you.
May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.
May you use those gifts you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content knowing you are a child of God.
Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.
It is there for each and every one of us.”
- St Therese de Lisieux

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

This Sunday children from our Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. In receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit we pray that they use these gifts in their daily lives to show others the amazing love of our God. We pray for and congratulate these young people as they continue to grow in knowledge and understanding of their faith.

Confirmation will be celebrated this Sunday at 10.30am at St Mary’s Church. All welcome – come along and join us!

Important Dates

**May**
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
Wed 30th: Expo meeting @ 5.30pm
Thanks for a great week!
God bless you! 😊

Emily Beattie
Jay Casey
Ruby Cleaver
Jobe Dunn
Imogen Fitzgerald
Ruby Fitzpatrick
Taylor Jackson
Angelina Juby
Lily Raymond
Austin Sobey
Chase Turnbull
Arlo Walsh
Jono Beattie

Attachments:
- 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 Sept School Concert!

Reminder
Next Monday 21st May is a pupil free day, as staff are attending professional learning. Students not required at school.

Catholic Education Week

Hopefully, like me, you feel a great sense of pride at being part of a Catholic school. Our school and parish community has much to celebrate when we consider our facilities, our amazing children, our traditions and the learning opportunities and challenges that are offered to us daily.

With the theme of Catholic Education Week this year being ‘Come and See’ we are asked to consider how we can help others to recognise the joy and blessings in their lives which enables them to strive to be the best they can be.

Students and staff will have the chance to reflect on these concepts next week as part of our celebrations. You are most welcome to join us for our Catholic Education Week events.

- Catholic Education Week begins this evening with a celebratory mass and dinner in Ballarat with members of our Diocesan Education community.

This year we are very pleased to honour John Healy who is being recognised with a 30 Year Service Award to Catholic Education!

During the week, we have many activities planned to mark the occasion and share the great things we do at St Mary’s.

- All parents and friends are invited to join us for our Open Morning on Wednesday 23rd May – this is not just for parents looking to enrol their children. It is also a wonderful opportunity to wander through our school and have conversations with Jo-Anne and Terrielynn about the learning that takes place each day. You are most welcome – ring the office and book a time to celebrate your school. Your children would love to see you!
- Students in Grades 5 & 6 will travel to Portland on Thursday 24th May to join students and staff from schools in our South West Network – St Joseph’s Penshurst, St Joseph’s Coleraine, Sacred Heart Casterton, St Malachy’s Edenhope, All Saints Portland and Monivae College. We will celebrate mass together, enjoy some activities and share lunch.
- Students in Grades Prep to 4 will also celebrate on Thursday with a ‘long lunch’ together in the Learning Street, a prayer liturgy at 2.30pm followed by a fun afternoon! Feel free to join in!!

NAPLAN
Students in Grades 3 and 5 have completed their NAPLAN testing this week. I was most impressed with the ‘do your best’ attitude these students brought to this activity. Our students are quite used to assessments which support and guide their learning and coped considerably well with the testing. Thanks to the staff who have supported these students throughout the process. A special thanks to Chris Minney for looking after the organisational aspect.

School Advisory Council
Our School Advisory Council (SAC) held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday evening at Roxburgh House. The Council thanked Rhys Colliton for the time and energy he has contributed to our school in his role as Parent Representative for the past four years, including a stint as Chairperson. Rhys is a great supporter of our school and his positivity and willingness to be involved is much appreciated.

With a Parent Representative vacancy we welcomed the nomination of Marie McDonald and are excited to have her return to the SAC. Our SAC are extremely valued in providing advice in areas such as: policies, school organisation, pastoral care, finances and school improvement.
Thank you to those who supported the school with their attendance at the AGM.

**Members of our SAC are:**

**Parent Representatives:**
- Jonathan Rowe (Chairperson)
- Marie McDonald (Vice-chair)
- David Knight
- John Houlihan

**Staff Representative**
- Kerry Stevens

**Parish Representative**
- John Hockey

**Ex-officio (non-elected members)**
- Terrielynn Groves
- Fr Paddy Mugavin
- Jo-Anne Bond

At our May meeting the SAC reviewed and ratified school policies including: Digital Technology, Student Care and Health, Child Safe and Reporting Obligations (Child Safe).

**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. Thank you.

**National Simultaneous Storytime Day**

National Simultaneous Storytime Day is next Wednesday, 23rd May, 2018. At 11a.m. the whole school will come together and listen to this year’s story, entitled ‘Hickory, Dickory Dash’ written by Tony Wilson and illustrated by Laura Wood. The students will gather together, with their teachers and other valued staff members and volunteers in their areas a little before 11a.m. along with thousands of students around our great nation. The story will be read to them and then they will enjoy recess. If you would like to experience this event with your children please do come along. Everyone is welcome!

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**Parish News**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS TIMES – 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hamilton:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dunkeld:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Glenthompson:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Penshurst:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Macarthur:</strong></td>
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**Thanks!**

This morning Year 8 – 4 from Monivae College paid us a visit to make a wonderful contribution to our Link Up freezer! These students were looking for ways to contribute to their local community and selected our Link Up program as their project. After a session spent in their food tech room they walked down to fill the freezer. Thanks for your help in supporting members of our school community in need! We look forward to sharing out your care for others.

**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/05/2018</td>
<td>Jodi Nicholson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/05/2018</td>
<td>Kaye Witehira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/06/2018</td>
<td>Cass Young</td>
</tr>
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- 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**

Hello again, this week I am going to share with you some information regarding how to help your young ones get to sleep and the importance of having a regular routine, I hope it is of help.

**Sleep problems in pre-schoolers and junior school**

Many problems in this age group stem from a child’s struggles between a need to develop independence and the need to be close to those they love. Common sleep disturbance in this age group include:

- Inability or unwillingness to fall sleep or stay asleep alone
- Bedtime fears, bedtime refusal
- Chronic and persistent night-time waking
- Sleep walking, sleep talking and nightmares

There are quite a few things that contribute to these sleep problems.

- Poor sleep habits or poor sleep “hygiene”. This includes things like irregular bed and wake times or too much television before bed.
- Parent’s being inconsistent or unable to follow through on bedtime rules or routines or in the middle of the night.

The child associates something which stops them from being able to get to sleep alone. Sometimes a parent will stay or sleep with a child until they fall asleep or the child will sleep in the parental bed (to be continued). Please also visit [www.sleephealthfoundation.org.au](http://www.sleephealthfoundation.org.au) for more information. I will continue this article next week.
Another quick reminder of mindfulness classes, you are able to join in anytime, if you would like more information please call me on 0400 994 032.

Kind regards, Lisa Gonnet
Schools Pastoral Care Worker
0400 994 032

Assembly
Assemblies are held every second Friday in our Learning Street @ 2.40pm.
Our next assembly will be Friday 25th May.
All welcome!

THE SPORT CATCH UP
School Cross Country Results
Congratulations to everyone that competed in the school cross country on Monday. It was great to see everyone doing their best! Thank you to all the parents who supported and offered their support at the finish line. All the results are posted in the student entry and the Top 3 from each age group is listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9 Year Girls</th>
<th>9 Year Boys</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Ruby Fitzpatrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Holly Rook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Lily Raymond</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 Year Girls</th>
<th>10 Year Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Michaela Tonissen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Arbella Colliton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Claire Pearce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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District Cross Country
Well done to the 34 students who represented St Mary’s terrifically yesterday at District Cross Country! Thank you to Mrs Schurmann who supported the students at this event. We will have the full results in the student entry and top 8 results in the newsletter next week. The students who finished in the top 8 in the 10, 11 and 12 year old age groups will progress onto Division Cross Country next week, Friday 25th May, in Warrnambool. A note will go out to these students ASAP.

Miss Couchman 

Lost Property
When possible could you please take the time to check your children’s clothing to see if they have names clearly labelled.
Could you also please check to see if they are wearing their own jumpers/clothing as Stella Raymond is missing a size 10 Sports jumper and Pippa Raymond has misplaced her size 7 school jumper.
Many thanks.