

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

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Parish Priest: Fr Paddy Mugavin

Principal 2019: Terrielynn Groves

SAC Chair: Jonathan Rowe

FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY, 2019

ISSUE 2

“Humanity is seeing others
and saying, ‘I wish you joy,
love, health and abundance.’

Not just those you like or
agree with.

Every. Single. Person.’

Brendon Burchard



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

What a week we have had here at St Mary's! A week full of amazing learning and teaching opportunities, and plenty of fun and laughter too!

Along with much attention being paid to setting up productive and engaging classroom environments, we have continued to celebrate the fantastic attitude that students are bringing to their learning. All areas in the school are very engaged and are contributing with enthusiasm and positivity to all aspects of school life.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating the beginning of the 2019 school year with you all on Sunday at Mass. Thanks for your support of this important community event.

Please remember that, just like Jo-Anne, I am always more than happy to assist with any queries, concerns, ideas or just to be a listening ear. You are always welcome to contact me by phone at school or call in for a chat. If you would like to use e-mail to make a suitable

IMPORTANT DATES

February

17th Feb - Beginning of Year School Mass

20th Feb - Parent Info Night @ 6.30pm

27th Feb - Athletic Sports @ Pedrina Park

March

4th & 5th March - Learning Conversations

5th March - Shrove Tuesday

6th March - Ash Wednesday

8th March - Pupil Free Day, Behaviour PD for all staff

11th March - Long Weekend

22nd March - Learning Walk 9.30-10.30am

25th March - Snow Queen performance @ Monivae for the whole school

April

5th April - End of Term 1 @ 2.15pm

time that would be great, otherwise ring the front office to check my diary. The door is always open!

Thanks for a great week!

Have a wonderful weekend with the people you love,
Terrielynn

Attachments to this week's Newsletter:

1. Athletics day information

Advance Notice:

10th May - Mother's Day High Tea

24th May - Peg Coltery Awards

27th May - Beginning of Catholic Education Week

2nd August - Grandparent's Day

30th August - Father's Day Lunch/Footy Colours

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Hollard family on the Baptism of their sons Jax (Prep) and Wren last Sunday. In what was very much a family affair, cousin Aylah was also baptised. What a wonderful family celebration!

School Mass

As a Catholic community, it is fitting that we begin our school year with the opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist together. In doing so we are able to give thanks for the many blessings provided for us in the world of education and to ask God for the guidance and energy needed to make the most of all that we have been provided with.

- Mass to celebrate the start of the school year will be held on this **Sunday 17th February at 10.30am at St Mary's Church, Lonsdale Street.**
- All students are expected to attend our whole school mass and be actively involved in the celebration.
- Students are required to wear their correct school **summer uniform and sit with their families** during the mass.
- Morning Tea will be offered following mass – could families please bring along a plate of food to share?

Information Evening

Parents are invited to attend our Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 20th February.

- A parent session for all families will begin at 6.30pm. This session will relate to our work with **behaviour procedures**, which will assist in the development of the students' skills in this area and also in the smooth running of our school.
- Classroom sessions will be held in the homerooms and presented to parents twice on the night – 7.00pm and 7.30pm. Teachers will present information on content to be taught during the year, housekeeping news about their classroom and things you need to be aware of as your children journey through the school year.
- This allows families with more than one child to attend two classes. Apologies to those with more than

two students. Any information provided as handouts on the night will be available for you.

Learning Conversations

Our Learning Conversations (Parent/Teacher Interviews) are scheduled for Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th March. This year we will begin at 2.30pm to ensure families and staff are home in time for dinner!

Timetables will be available at the front office from next Monday 18th February for you to indicate your preferred times for conversations with your child's classroom teacher. If you can't make it in to school to put your name down please ring the office on 55519000 or send an e-mail to office@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

Thanks for helping us make the Learning Conversations' timetable more streamlined. We value this time with parents and carers and wish to make them accessible to all families.

Please note that if you haven't had a chance to nominate your preferred time by Wednesday 20th February we will put you into the remaining time slots.

- This is an opportunity to have a discussion between parents, teachers and students relating to your child's learning so far this year. It will also be a time to share learning directions and the results of Literacy and Numeracy testing conducted so far.
- Please bring your son/daughter along to their appointment time so he or she can be involved in the conversation.
- Fifteen minutes has been set aside for your conversation. If you wish to take some of this time for a chat without your child present, please indicate this to the teacher at the start of your time.
- It is vital that you are punctual to these meetings to ensure that we can run the afternoons as smoothly as possible.

Thank you for your support!

Gr 6 Leaders

On Monday I was privileged to be invited to spend time with our Grade 6 students as they presented their leadership speeches to their peers and teachers. I was overwhelmed by the way these young people spoke with confidence about how they will serve our school community as leaders during 2019. I couldn't help but notice how much these students love our school and want to do all they can to make it the best school it can possibly be. St Mary's is in great hands! Following these presentations, students in Grade 5 & 6 and all members of staff voted for leadership positions. Student leaders were announced at our assembly this afternoon and will be listed in next week's newsletter.

School Values

This year we continue with our three main school values:

Respect your school
Do your best
Help others to succeed

During our day, and in all that we do, we try to remember these rules and make choices that support our expectation to

'Treat others the way you would like to be treated'.

Uniform

Students are to wear their summer uniform for Term 1. Hats MUST be worn during this term at recess, lunchtime and other outdoor events. For students who don't have their hat, they will need to sit under the shade sail. Please ensure that your children have their name on their hat and all items of their uniform.

We had a close look at our uniform policy on Monday morning at our Check-In Assembly and we couldn't help but be impressed by the maturity shown by the children in discussing what is and isn't school uniform. Thanks you for your support in this area too.

Visitors During the School Day

It is great to see parents and carers visit school during the day to support the learning programs in the classrooms. Our Visitors Policy, which is implemented to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community, requires anyone coming into the school to report to the office on arrival and sign in before moving into the learning spaces.

- Parents and carers are not permitted to enter the learning area or the playground without following the correct procedure.
- If the Office is unattended please do not wander past without completing the visitors book.
- If you need to drop something off to your child during the day please leave the items at the office for staff to deliver at an appropriate time.
- Parents waiting to collect their children at the end of the day are asked not to wait in the Learning Street as this distracts students and hinders teachers in preparing students for dismissal.

Thanks for your co-operation and support of this policy.

Link Up!

A strength of the St Mary's Community is our ability to look after one another in times of need. On numerous occasions already this year Link Up has assisted families who have experienced loss, illness, sadness and celebration. A gentle knock on the door, friendly face and care package mean a great deal to those who have received assistance.

Thank you to those parents who have already generously provided food for our freezer:

lasagne, quiche, cakes, slices, cupcakes,
sausage rolls, soup, casseroles ...

Food needs to be clearly labelled and dated in disposable containers.

You can place it in the freezer in the multi-purpose room yourself, leave at the office or with Terrielynn.

We aim to be a community who demonstrates the values of compassion and hope. This is an important and practical way you can actively and positively contribute. For more information, offers of assistance or to let us know of families who need assistance please call the office.

Emergency Management

Each term we practice our emergency management procedure to ensure that staff and students know what to do if the need arises. We make sure that we vary the 'incident' so that we are well prepared. On Wednesday we had an evacuation drill with everyone following the instructions extremely well.

Pastoral Care

Hello again, this week I will continue with the starting school article by the Australian Raising children website. I hope, as always, this is of interest. The web address is: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning/school-choosing-starting-moving/starting-school>

Starting school: the early weeks

Your child might need some support when school starts. There are some simple things you can do to help these first few weeks go smoothly:

- Try to drop off your child at school before the bell goes in the morning. Also pick your child up on time. If you're late it could make your child feel very anxious.
- Try to make after-school time a bit special, with a snack and time for the two of you to chat.
- *Be patient if your child wants to blurt out every little detail about school, or clams up completely. You could try saying something like, 'Tell me one good thing about your day', rather than asking lots of questions.*
- *Try to be flexible with snacks and meals. Your child will probably be very hungry after school. If you give her a small, healthy snack straight after school, it'll help to keep her going until dinner.*
- *Don't expect too much academic progress too soon. If your child is happy and seems to be enjoying school, that's a real achievement. The rest will come later.*
- *Remember that it's normal for children to play with lots of different children, and even to play on their own sometimes. It takes a while before they settle into a group of friends.*
- *If your child doesn't seem to be settling well, or tells you about teasing or bullying, speak to your child's classroom teacher.*

Some children might be tired after school for the first few weeks. Other children might still have the energy for after-school activities. Depending on your child's energy levels after school, you might want to let your

child rest and play at home for a few weeks until you think he's ready for playdates and after-school activities. Have a wonderful week.

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

St Mary's Parish Sacramental Program Parent Meeting Thursday 28th Feb 7-8pm in the Dunworth Centre



To parents of all 2019 candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation – Confirmation and First Communion. This will be a formation meeting as well as your opportunity to enrol your child in the Parish Sacramental Program.

Noreen McLeish Ph. 0438 531 651

Icypoles

Term 4 last year we raised **\$591** for Blair Allen. Blair is only 4 years old and is sadly suffering from a slow growing tumour on the main stem of his brain {astrocytoma}. Blair has had surgery which has removed 60% of the tumour, and it has shrunk slightly. This term we are selling icy poles every Tuesday for \$1.00 each. We are raising money for the **Epilepsy Foundation** We will be selling them at second lunch near the 5/6 tables.

Grace Cleaver

Canteen Roster

Lunch orders are available every Wednesday from now on as long as we have a volunteer. Canteen cannot be offered to our students without our volunteers. If you are interested in helping out, please let the school office know or put your name on the roster at the office. At this stage we need a volunteer for next week.

20/02/2019 VOLUNTEER NEEDED
27/02/2019 VOLUNTEER NEEDED
06/03/2019 Katrina Mayberry w` Katrina Turnbull

Parish News

MASS TIMES – 2019

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hamilton: | Saturday 6pm Sunday 10.30am |
| Dunkeld: | Sunday 8.30am |
| Glenthompson: | Sunday 8.30am |
| Penshurst: | Sunday 8.30am |
| Macarthur: | Sunday 8.30am |

Assembly

Our next assembly will be Friday 1st March, 2019
in our Learning Street @ 2.40pm.
All welcome!

Live Music By Phil Holmes &
Jason Mulley

St Mary's Primary School Social Night

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH 2019
7:30 - MIDNIGHT

St Mary's Parish Hall - Lonsdale Street Hamilton
BYO Drinks | Light Supper Provided
\$20 pp | Payment to the school office by Friday
22nd March

Remember parents need to abide by our school's
code of conduct

The Hamilton Model Railway Group
Presents



Teddy Bear's Picnic

Sunday 24th March
11am - 3pm
Pastoral Museum - Miller Lane

Bring your Teddy to the picnic ride on the trains

See the special 'Teddy Bear Train'
Listen to the Hamilton Brass Band
Enjoy the sausage sizzle
Face painting & more...

**Special Day
Train Fare \$10**
Unlimited rides
+ A sausage & Drink
(or single ride for \$3)

For further information contact:
Jim - 0407 951 371