

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Parish Priest: Fr Paddy Mugavin
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Newsletter

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Friday 2nd August, 2019

Issue 22

GRANDPARENTS
fill the world
with LOVE

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

As I write, we are waiting with great anticipation for the arrival of over 160 grandparents and special friends to our school! We could not be more excited! Grandparent's Day is such an important day on our school calendar and so well supported by all our families, through catering and the efforts made to ensure the children have a special person to share the afternoon with. I know how much my own children love their grandparents and the wonderful gift they are to each other. A most precious relationship.

This weekend sees Sheepvention come to town. This is a fantastic event for our community and I know many of our families are heavily involved. Our Preps and their Gr 6 buddies will be heading up there on Monday. Thanks to all those parents who have offered to help out.

As always, so much going on here at St Mary's so make sure you keep up through the newsletter, Seesaw and our Skoolbag app.

Thanks for a great week!

Have a restful weekend with the people you love,
Terrielynn

IMPORTANT DATES

July

Week 4

5th August – Learning Conversations

5th August – Sheepvention excursion – Prep & Gr 6

Week 5

14th August – Learning Conversations

16th August – Gr 3 Parish Dinner (note amended date)

Week 6

19th August – School Photos

19th August – Gr 5/6 Swimming starts

23rd August – Gr 4 Parish Dinner

Week 7

29th August – Oliver Performance @ Monivae,
11am, Gr 5/6

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

1st September – First Communion

1st September – Father's Day

Attachments to this week's Newsletter:

Advance Notice:

6th September – Gr 5/6 Parish Dinner

12th September – Art Show

Staff Professional Learning

8th August – Numeracy PD - Chris

16th August – Principal's Meeting, Hamilton - Terrielynn

22nd & 23rd August – RE Conference – John & Lindy

Welcome!

This week we have been delighted to welcome the Bell family to our school. Grady has joined the 5/6 Team in Gr 5 with Miss Couchman and Tatum is in Gr 2 with Miss Watts. We hope they enjoy being at our beautiful school!

Congratulations

Well done to all our Gr 5/6s who attended Hooptime on Monday. We particularly extend our congratulations to one of our boy's teams who won the Grand Final and will compete at the next level. Great work!

Child Safe Standards

The Child Safe Standards are compulsory minimum standards for all organisations that provide services to children including Victorian schools. The aim of the standards is to ensure organisations are well prepared to protect children from abuse and neglect. Each week we will take a look at a standard to further increase our understandings as a community.

STANDARD Two - A child safe policy or statement of commitment to child safety

Child Safe Standard 2 requires schools to develop and publicly communicate a Statement of Commitment to child safety and/or a school child safe policy.

A Statement of Commitment to child safety helps raise awareness about the importance of child safety in the school and the community and affirms the organisation's commitment to child safety and expectations.

A Child Safe Policy is an overarching document that provides key elements of an organisation's approach for child safe environments.

How does the St Mary's achieve this?

- Child Safety Policy and Procedure
- Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

DOBCEL Meeting

Fr Paddy will be hosting a meeting here at school on **Wednesday 14th August at 5pm** (as part of our School Advisory Council meeting) to inform our community on a new approach to the governance of parish primary and secondary schools in the diocese. This new model sees the establishment of a company, Diocese of Ballarat Education Limited (DOBCEL). On this evening, Fr Paddy will outline what this will mean for our community. Please let the office know if you will be attending. All welcome!

Fundraising Meeting

We had a very positive and productive meeting on Tuesday evening to start making decisions about our



major fundraiser for the year, St Mary's Christmas Parade. In next week's newsletter I will outline these decisions in some detail. In the meantime, pop the date of our next meeting in your diary – **TUESDAY 13th AUGUST @ 5.30pm**. We'd love to see you there!

Sand Pit Toys!

And speaking of fundraising, we recently purchased new sand pit toys, using the proceeds from our Pizza Lunch. The children will be extremely excited to start using them and very grateful to have them. Thanks to everyone involved.



Sheepvention

Just to let you know that the country buses will not be running on Monday 5th August due to Sheepvention. Other buses will run as per usual.

Canteen Roster

Lunch orders are available every **Wednesday** as long as we have a volunteer. If you are interested in helping out, please let the school office know or put your name on the roster at the office. **If we don't have a volunteer by the Friday before Canteen we will cancel Canteen for that day.**

07/08/2019 Volunteer Needed

Learning Conversations -

The timetable with your child/children's Learning Conversation day and time was sent home last Friday. We very much look forward to meeting with you on **Monday 5th or Wednesday 14th of August.**

Car Safety

Just a quick note when you are picking up your kids after school, please ensure kids have their seatbelts on before driving away.

**St Mary's Art Show – 12th September**

If you have student Gr 3 – 6 who would like to play their instrument (background music) for our bi annual Art Show please contact Tara Stephens. Tara is at school on Tuesdays.

Assembly

Our next assembly will be Friday 16th August, 2019
in our Learning Street @ 2.40pm.
All welcome!

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

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2019

ICAS is developed by UNSW Global, a subsidiary of the University of New South Wales. ICAS is designed to target students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling and Digital Technologies.

Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition. The assessments are suitable for students wishing to extend themselves academically and take up the personal challenge of competing in an international assessment. Students will be presented with high-quality, expert-developed questions, allowing them to apply their learning without the need for prior study or revision. Every student will receive a certificate and an online result report

The major difference to ICAS in 2019 is that the assessments will be done online. The exception to this is the Writing assessment for Grades 3 and 4 which will still be done on paper.

If you wish your child to compete in any or all of these competitions, entry forms are available at the school office. Entry forms and entry fees need to be returned to school by Tuesday, August 6.

If you have any further queries about ICAS please contact me.

Chris Minney

FOOTY COLOURS/FATHER'S DAY LUNCH!

FOOTY COLOURS DAY is Friday the 30th August and raises money for the cancer foundation.

It's only a month away so save up your money. Come dressed in your favourite footy, rugby or soccer team colours.

You have a chance to receive a prize by

- # colouring in
- # longest kick
- # handball

Dads/special person are also encouraged to do the longest kick and handball, as we have prizes for them too. Cost for longest kick and handball is 50 cents for each event.

We have also had vouchers and gifts donated by local businesses to be raffled. Raffle tickets will be organised shortly. Order forms for lunch will be sent out on Monday.

So get practicing, raid the piggy bank, ask parents for some 50 cent pieces and some money for all the raffle items.

Let's have heaps of fun on 30th of August with dads/special people, and raise some money for a worthy cause.

Hugh Fitzgerald and Alex Gunning, Gr 6

Fun with maths at home

The Victorian Maths Challenge provides families with opportunities to explore maths together. It encourages families to ask questions of each other and to have fun exploring different ways to solve open-ended problems. Family participation in learning is one of the most accurate predictors of a child's success in school and beyond (State of Victoria - Department of Education and Training). There are activities to do with younger children and other problem solving tasks for students from Grades 5 and 6. Obviously, these would not be limited to these year levels and are worth exploring as a family.

This link will allow you to find out more information about this challenge.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/vmc/Pages/default.aspx>

Why not have a look and see what tasks you can tackle as a family? Often we can spend time involved in Literacy learning with our children by reading with them. This gives families a chance to spend some time doing maths activities together in a fun way at home.

I would love to hear if anyone takes on any of the challenges.

Chris Minney

Pastoral Care

Hello, this week I continue with the 10 Hints for Creating Resilient Families. If you would like to have more information please visit www.resilientyouth.org.au or www.andrewfuller.com.au

3. Rediscover some family rituals

Family rituals are strong predictors of resilience. It doesn't matter whether it is the family walk after dinner, the Sunday roast, the Friday night pizza or the Saturday morning clean up- rituals are highly protective. The best rituals often cost nothing. These are the activities you hope that later on your children will reminisce and say " Mum always made sure we did." or Dad always made sure we did."

4. Spontaneity and curiosity

Spontaneity and curiosity are the building blocks of good mental health. You cannot tell someone how to have better mental health and you can't give it to them by getting them to read a book. So the really hard message here is that if you want to raise your children to have mentally healthy lives you are going to have to have a good time yourself. If you want your children to succeed you need to show them that success is worth having.

5. Love kids for their differences

When families' function well people are allowed to be different and to be loved for those differences. We all know that children take on different roles. A father of three said, "It's as if they have a planning meeting once a year and say ' you be the good kid, I'll be the sick kid and the other one can be the trouble-maker!' And then just when you think you've got it figured out they change roles again". Having children who are strongly individual and who have a sense of who they are, is a sign of good parenting. The problem may, of course be that they will then express their independent spirit in ways that you don't like. The ideal is a mix between someone who preserves their own uniqueness and is able to work with others without becoming dictated to by them. Someone who has their own independent nature but is comfortable enough with themselves to allow inter-dependence. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me on 0400 994 032.

Kind regards Lisa Gonnet
Schools Pastoral Care Worker, 0400994032

RURAL EXPO 2019
Sunday 4th August Monday 5th August Tuesday 6th August

FREE VICTORIA WIDE SERVICE

Our free 6 to 10 Week program helps you to:

- Have Stronger more positive relationships
- Set rules and limits
- Manage everyday behaviour problems

Participants complete a workbook or online modules which are supported by weekly 30 minute phone calls with a trained parenting educator. All of this can be done from the comfort of your own home at a time that suits you.

Enrol now and make a positive start to last a lifetime

Call us for more information or to enrol

1800 880 660

Enrolments are taken all year round

VICTORIA gatewayhealth

woolly west fest

KNIT ONE - READ ONE

<https://www.woollywestfest.com.au>

GREAT! YOUTH MARKET

Community 4 Youth Saturday Market
Saturday 3 August, 10.00am – 2.00pm
Hamilton Performing Art Centre

Quality hand-crafted gifts for sale, all created by students from across the Southern Grampians.
Live music and more!

Proudly supported by the Woolly West Fest, Freeza, and Western District Health Service.
Free entry!