Mini Vinnies

Mini Vinnies is a group of students who are formed around the St Vincent de Paul foundation. We organise fundraisers for good charities, but mainly we raise money and awareness for Vinnies. We joined Mini Vinnies because we wanted to help other people and wanted to feel that we were doing something good. We currently have 11 Mini Vinnies members at St Mary’s.

To support our Winter Project please bring in tinned food (for example tinned ham, baked beans, tinned fruit. You can also bring in essential items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo etc. Lauren and Libby

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Hasn’t the past week flown! For most of you we have hit the halfway mark of the term but for myself it is only just beginning! I have had a wonderful six weeks away from everyday routines and have thoroughly enjoyed the break. It has also been refreshing to get back to school this week and start using my brain in a different capacity.

A huge thank you to Terrielynn Groves for taking on the role of acting Principal in my absence and to the entire staff for the support and assistance they have provided to Terrielynn during this time – and she needed it to get around in that wheelchair! Thanks also to Fr Paddy for allowing me to take time to recharge the batteries and support my time of leave.

Now it’s back to the joys of learning and cold weather! It was great to catch up with the students during the week – haven’t they all grown?!

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

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

**AUGUST**
- Fri 18th: Parish family dinner – Gr 4
- Mon 21st: Golf Clinic Gr 5/6
- Thurs 24th & Fri 25th: Pupil free days
- Thurs 31st: PSG meetings

**SEPTEMBER**
- Fri 1st: History Box incursion
  - Footy and Father’s Day
  - Parish family dinner – Gr 5
- Wed 6th: School Council @ 7.00pm
- Thurs 7th & Fri 8th: Gr 3/4 Camp
- Fri 8th: Parish family dinner – Gr 6
- Thurs 14th: Art Show opening @ 6.30pm
- Fri 15th: First Communion workshop
- Sun 17th: First Communion @ 10.30am
  - P/1 late stay & Gr 2 sleepover
- Thurs 21st: Monivae Mission Fair Day – Gr 5/6
- Fri 22nd: Last day of term 3
  - Early finish @ 2.15pm
Advance notice:
- Fri 1st Sept - Fathers & Footy Day
- Fri 27th Oct - Mission Day
- Fri 15th Dec - Swimming Carnival

Attachments:
- Art Show information
- Book Fair / Book Week / Christmas Expo
- Saturday Morning Netball form – grade 5/6 only

Pupil Free Days
A reminder that next Thursday 24th & Friday 25th August are pupil free days to allow staff to attend the Southern Zone Education Conference in Warrnambool. Students are not required to attend school on these days!

Teachers and LSOs will have the opportunity to engage in learning activities related to supporting students to engage in learning in ways that cater for diversity. We are very grateful to have the opportunity to participate in such a rich learning experience with colleagues from throughout our Catholic school community.

Learning Conversations
Many thanks to families and staff for your contribution to this term’s Learning Conversations. These opportunities are a very important way to enhance the partnership between school and home. If you were unable to make your appointment time please contact your child’s homeroom teacher.

Thanks
A very enjoyable evening was had by all who attended the social evening held last Saturday at the St Mary’s Hall. Well done and thanks to Karren Ewing and Monique Sobey for their planning and organisation of the event. The hall looked amazing, was nice and warm and the company and entertainment superb!

Working With Children Check
Changes have been made to the Working with Children Act 2005 to clarify and simplify the requirements of holding a Check and implement key recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The changes came into effect on 1 August 2017 and mean that Working with Children Checks will be needed in some situations where they were not previously required.

People undertaking child-related work whose contact with children is supervised by another person will now be required to hold a Check.

The meaning of direct contact is expanded to cover all types of contact including written and verbal contact as well as contact by email and through electronic means.

Therefore, all parents/carers/visitors wishing to attend or participate in any school activity will be required to have a current Working with Children Check. WWC Check applications can be made online at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au and are free for volunteers.

Father’s Day Lunch
On Friday 1st September 2016 we will be celebrating fathers and football with a pie lunch at school! The P & F will be preparing pies/pasties/party pies/sausage rolls for dads (or a special friend), students and staff. To order lunch return your order form to school by Monday 28th August 2016.

Lunch for students and staff will cost $5.00 and includes a fruit box. Please include payment with your order. Lunch for dads is on us!

No late orders can be accepted as we need to pre-order food. Dads need only return their form with one of their children.

Dads are invited to join us for lunch at 1.30pm wearing the scarf, beanie or footy jumper of their favourite team. Students are invited to wear their footy colours to school too for a gold coin donation for Fight Cancer Foundation. Following lunchtime activities our assembly will include a focus on Fathers’ Day.

Western District Spelling Competition
The Western District Spelling Competition is fast approaching. Each year the spelling team attend the spelling competition held at Warrnambool Primary School to take on the top spellers in our district. Each year level Gr. 4-6, undertake a written test which is then marked while parents and competitors enjoy a lovely supper. After the supper the top few competitors from each year level will be invited to participate in an oral test to determine the overall winner for each year level. A trophy is also presented to the school that has the highest average score for the initial written test.

I am very excited to announce our team for this year and look forward to working with the team as we prepare for the competition. These students have worked hard throughout the year to demonstrate their spelling aptitude and should be proud of themselves for making it onto the team.

Congratulations to: Damon Taylor, Amy Goss, Bailey Hayes, Amy Shelly, Jack Roberts, Olivia Houlihan, Lisa Schurmann
**Parish News**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS TIMES – 2017</th>
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| Hamilton:  
Saturday 6pm  
Sunday 10.30am  |
| Dunkeld:  
Sunday 8.30am  |
| Glen Thompson:  
Sunday 8.30am  |
| Penshurst:  
Sunday 8.30am  |
| Macarthur:  
Sunday 8.30am  |

**Assembly**

Assemblies are held every second Friday starting at 2.40pm.

Our next assembly will be **Friday 1st September**

All welcome!

**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/08/2017</td>
<td>Cass Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/8/2017</td>
<td>Jen Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/9/2017</td>
<td>Volunteer needed</td>
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</tbody>
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Please note that if there are no parent volunteers there will be no lunch orders available on that day.

**Pastoral Care**

Hello, this week I will continue looking at body image, with an emphasis on exercise. I hope it is of interest.

**Get children into the exercise habit**

Studies show that a person who appreciates what their body can do, rather than what it looks like, feels good about their body and tends to have higher self-esteem.

Suggestions include:

- Make your family an active one. Exercise yourself and encourage your child from an early age to exercise right along with you. For example, take little ones for strolls in the pram. Once they’re old enough, encourage them to walk part of the way. Use walks to encourage them to engage their whole body with the environment, using sights, smells, sounds and touch.

- Emphasise fitness, health, social interaction and enjoyment as the motivations for exercise, rather than weight loss or weight management.

- Try to find a team sport they enjoy. Team sports encourage camaraderie, teamwork, competition and mastery of physical skills. A child who feels passionate about their sport is more likely to continue playing into adulthood.

- Regular exercise naturally helps to maintain a healthy body weight.

- Investigate associations or clubs carefully and make informed decisions about sports that have a strong emphasis on thinness or muscular form, such as gymnastics and ballet. Vulnerable children may feel pressured to lose weight to participate in these activities.

Should you have any concerns please contact your GP.

Have a great week.

Kind regards Lisa Gonnet
Schools pastoral care worker
0400994032

**Footy Colours Day**

1st SEPTEMBER

This day is to celebrate our dads and to raise money to support kids living with cancer, so they can continue their education whilst having treatment.

We are asking for a gold coin donation for the day and to come dressed in your Footy, Rugby or Soccer team colours.

We have plenty of giveaway prizes for:

- Colouring competition
- Longest Kick
- Handball competition.

Cost for Longest Kick and Handball Competitions is 50 cents each.

Dads and special visitors are encouraged to participate, as we have prizes for them as well. Hopefully, we will also have some footy games, with House Teams V’S Dads.

We will also have raffle tickets for vouchers from some local cafes, restaurants and hotels.

Heaps of fun for all. We can’t wait!

Hugh and Imogen Fitzgerald.

**Joke of the Week**

Q: How many Astronauts does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: None, because they are not afraid of the dark.
The Sport Catch Up

Hoop Time
The Grade 3/4 All Star Girls have qualified for the Regional Finals here in Hamilton on Tuesday 24th October and the Grade 5/6 All Star Girls have also qualified for the Regional Finals in Hamilton on Tuesday 14th November. Thank you to Matt Dunn and Jo Bowie who have kindly offered to coach the teams again. Notes are coming home with the students involved in these teams this week.

Golf Clinic and Golf Tournament
The Primary School Golf Championship for 2017 is being held on Thursday 31st August at Parklands Golf Club. It is open to students in Grades 4-6. The day will commence at 9.45am and finish at approx. 1.30pm. The students will play over a nine-hole course with the holes shortened to cater for the age of the students. Players need to be able to consistently hit the ball with the maximum score allowed per hole being 10 shots. Children can bring their own set of clubs with them on the day or borrow them from Mr Andy Clark, from Golf Victoria. A parent or guardian must also be in attendance with each group. It is not essential that this person be familiar with the rules of golf, it is merely to assist with supervision. Entry fee is $10 which is payable to your school. Children will be provided with a light lunch following their round and prizes will be awarded for the lowest scores. Leading scorers will then qualify for the Regional Final to be played at Warrnambool Golf Club. If your child is interested please see Miss Couchman.

The Grade 5/6 students will be having a Golf clinic at school on Monday 21st August with Andy Clark from Golf Victoria.

Saturday Netball
The Hamilton Netball Association (Saturday Morning Netball) is up and running again for Season Two. The season will run from Saturday 14th October until Saturday 2nd December (8 weeks). The age groups are 11&under and 13&under. The cost for juniors will be:
- Victoria Netball Association: $51 (unless already paid)
- HNA GAME FEES: $40
- HNA Membership Fee: $10
- TOTAL: $ 101 or $50 if VNA is already paid

Each team we enter must have 8 players, a coach and an umpire, as a minimum, who have their Working with Children Check. If you are interested in coaching, umpiring or playing please let Miss Couchman by returning the attached slip by Friday 1st September.

1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching Parenting Program
The program aims to help parents gain practical tips on how to get children to:
- Stop doing the things that drive parents crazy like arguing, fighting, yelling
- Start to do things parents want children to do
- Develop children’s emotional intelligence
- Develop resilience in children

Date: Thursday September 7th, 14th, 21st
Venue: Hamilton North PS
Time: 6.30 – 8.30
Cost: $6.50 (Workbook)
Bookings: Centacare Family and Community Services
Family Relationship Educator
Marea Sholly
Phone: (03) 5559 3000
Email: marea.sholly@centacarewarrnambool.org.au