Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Our bi-annual Art Show was officially opened last night by Amy Board from the Hamilton Art Gallery!

The Learning Street is full of colour, creativity and flair with a huge amount of student work on display. Last nights’ opening was an amazing celebration of the artistic talent of our students who are very fortunate to be able to experience the teaching of Shelley Waters, our very own modern master! Thanks Shelley!

Thank you to all families and friends who supported our Art Show at the opening and enjoyed catching up and admiring the ‘gallery’.

Thank you also to the Hamilton Rotary Club for the use of the stands which allowed us to display the art.

‘There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow spot, but there are others who, thanks to their art and intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun.’

Pablo Picasso

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**SEPTEMBER**
- Sun 17th: First Communion @ 10.30am
- Mon 18th: Prep liturgy 2.20 @ school
- Wed 20th: Expo meeting @ 6.30pm
- Thurs 21st: School Council @ 7.00pm
- Fri 22nd: P/1 late stay & Gr 2 sleepover

Monivae Mission Fair Day – Gr 5/6
- Last day of Term 3 Casual Clothes (Early finish @ 2.15pm)

**OCTOBER**
- Mon 9th: Start of Term 3!
- Fri 13th: Regional aths
- Tues 24th: Hoop Time Regional
- Wed 25th: School Council @ 7.00pm
A big thanks to Julie Donehue for the donation of one of her own pieces which is being raffled. Please call in to the office to purchase tickets.

Art work will be available for viewing before or after school and between 11.00 – 11.30am and 1.30 – 2.20pm until Tuesday 19th September.

First Communion
This Sunday will be a wonderful celebration for the children receiving the Eucharist for the first time! This is a special occasion for these students, their families and our Parish community, as they share for the first time at the altar. By receiving the bread and wine they are challenged and called to take on Jesus in their daily lives and make choices that will bring them to be loving and caring people, just as Jesus was. Please keep these children in your prayers and feel welcome to come along on Sunday at 10.30am to join in the celebration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seamus Byron</th>
<th>Lachlan McDonald</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jude Alexander</td>
<td>Mia Spong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chloe Wormald</td>
<td>Stella Grinham</td>
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<td>Joseph Wormald</td>
<td>Poppy Diedrichs</td>
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<td>Jayde Brown</td>
<td>Sarah Philip</td>
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<td>Sophie Kuilboer</td>
<td>Clifford Deloso</td>
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<td>Holly Took</td>
<td>Lennon Deloso</td>
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Parish News

Advance notice:
- Fri 27th Oct Mission Day
- Tues 12th Dec Transition day – all students
- Fri 15th Dec Swimming Carnival

Attachments:
- 3 Catholic Bishops Perspectives on Same-Sex marriage
- School Holidays Hamilton Activities

Reminder – end of term!
A reminder that school finishes at 2.15pm next Friday 22nd September.

Almost time for Term 4!
Towards the end of each term our teachers spend time working in their teams to plan the learning programs for the coming term. Next week our teams will have a day each to collaborate and discuss student learning. Students will work with our valued casual teachers on these days.

Grade 3/4 Camp
A very tired group of campers arrived back at school last Friday afternoon after two days in Port Fairy and Warrnambool. I have heard lots about the sound and light show at Flagstaff Hill and the weather so far. Thanks to Marie McDonald, Sarah Bryon and Shauna Beattie for volunteering their time and energy. A big thanks to Lisa Schurmann and Sherree Gallagher for their excellent planning of the camp activities and to John Healy for supporting them over the two days.

Parish Family Dinners
Last Friday I enjoyed catching up with Grade 6 students and families at the final Parish Family Dinner for 2017. These evenings are hosted by Fr Paddy and are a wonderful opportunity to gather in an informal, welcoming and hospitable environment. Thanks to all families who have attended these dinners throughout the year. We are very fortunate to be part of a Parish community who continually looks for ways to engage with families and young people. A huge thanks to Fr Paddy for his generosity in time and energy and to the parish members who have supported this initiative.

Parish Assembly
Assemblies are held every second Friday starting at 2.40pm.
Our next assembly will be Friday 13th October All welcome!

Canteen Roster
20/09/2017 Cass Young
11/10/2017 Jen Taylor
18/10/2017 Volunteer needed

Please note that if there are no parent volunteers, there will be no lunch orders available on that day. Can Parents please remember to place lunch orders in brown paper bags.
**UNIFORM SHOP**

Opening times: Every **Monday** 3.15 – 3.45pm

**From Monday 18th September**

Purchases can be made by attending the Uniform Shop or by placing an order with payment at the front office. EFTPOS available.

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**PASTORAL CARE**

Hello, Week 9! Only one week left of term, this time last year I was getting ready to go on leave, how quickly this year has passed. Today we finish looking at the Kids Matter article on building children’s confidence.

**Confident thinking**

Self-esteem is an important part of confidence. Having good self-esteem means accepting and feeling positive about yourself. Confidence is not just feeling good but also knowing you are good at something. Particular ways of thinking are very important for building confidence.

Helpful ways of thinking include:

- believing that, if you try, you can succeed
- finding positive ways to cope with failure that encourage having another go
- enjoying learning for its own sake by competing with your own performance rather than that of others
- making sure that goals are achievable by breaking down large tasks or responsibilities into small steps
- being ready to help when necessary, without taking over.

**Dealing with disappointment**

Everybody fails to achieve their goals sometimes. Parents and carers (and school staff) can help by:

- responding sympathetically and with encouragement (eg “That was disappointing, but at least you had a go.”)
- helping children focus on what they can change to make things better, rather than thinking that the situation is unchangeable or that there is something wrong with them (eg “What can you try that might make that work better next time?”)
- challenging ‘I can’t’ thinking by showing and saying you believe in them and reminding them of what they have achieved.

Optimistic thinking recognises what has been achieved more than what is lacking. It looks at the glass as half-full rather than half-empty. Parents and carers can help children focus on their own effort and on achieving personal goals as the best way to measure success.

These school holidays I will only be available Wednesday thru to Friday second week of the holidays, my office is in the Mary Knoll centre, please feel free to make an appointment to meet or to call for a chat on 0400994032.

I wish you all a wonderful time with your children.

Kind regards Lisa Gonnet
Schools pastoral care worker
0400994032

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**A Sparkling Christmas Expo.**

**Celebrating 25 years!**

Spread the news and come along, sparkle and be a part of the celebration!

**Christmas Expo. Committee Members and interested Team Leaders** - Our next Christmas Expo. meeting will be held in our school meeting room at 6.30p.m. next Wednesday, 20th September, 2017.

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**Casual Clothes day**

Dear Parents / Guardians and Students.

On the last day of term, Friday 22nd Sept, there will be a casual clothes day. You do not need gold coin donation and there is no theme. So we hope you have a great last day of term.

From the Student Councillors

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**JOKES OF THE WEEK**

Q: What do you get when you cross a helicopter with a fan?
A: A cool helicopter!

Q: Where does a whale sleep?
A: On a very big waterbed!

Chase Turnbull & Sam Handreck

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**THE SPORT CATCH UP**

**Saturday Netball**

Saturday Netball gets underway on Saturday 14th October. We will have an Under 13 team and a combined Under 11 team with Good Shepherd. Information notes and consent forms have gone home and need to be returned to the Hamilton Netball Association on Round One.

**Walk to School month**

This year we are participating in the Walk to School month in October. It encourages primary school children to walk, ride or scoot to and from school throughout October, to help them get the 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day. Last year
we had an outstanding Walk to School month! Similar to last year we will have a “Walking Group” meeting at the Ballarat Road School Crossing from 8:20am that will depart for school from there at 8:40am each morning during October. We will begin this the first day of Term Four, we hope to see lots of St Mary’s kids safely walking, riding or scooting to and from school in October. If you are unable to walk to/from school each day for any reason (e.g. bus travellers) but would still like to join in the fun, we will be offering an oval walk/run during selected lunchtimes in October.

Equestrian
On Sunday I went to Warrnambool to compete at WISE Champs. I competed for my school and after dressage I came 2nd on Jagger, my black pony, and I came 3rd on my coloured pony, Si. After show jumping I stayed in 2nd place on Jagger and 8th on Si because I had a refusal, which means a stop at the jump. After cross country Jagger came 8th and Si came back up to 2nd, I was one penalty apart from the person who won.

Drew Garratt

Well done on representing St Mary’s so wonderfully Drew, we are very proud of you!