Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

Next Friday is our annual Mission Day. Missionary activity is, fundamentally, a going out of oneself in love, a reaching out to bring God’s love to everyone, especially the outcast and unloved.

Catholic Mission around the world has the responsibility of promoting a dignified and fruitful celebration of World Mission Day. Missionary work helps individuals explore how to be Church in their context, how to live Gospel values and how to work so that all people have a ‘fullness of life’.

Mission Day is one of the really special days on our school calendar where we all come together as a community to raise awareness and money for those in need.

In our work with students we connect with the Catholic Social Teaching principles in order to understand the ‘why’ of our mission work:

- Solidarity
- The common good
- Stewardship of creation
- Subsidiarity and participation
- Dignity of the human person
- Preferential option for the poor

We invite you to join us for our prayer liturgy starting at 12.00pm followed by FUNdrasing stalls and activities. Make sure you bring along your gold coins to join in.

We hope that our understanding of ‘mission’ will be nurtured and that we will be encouraged and supported to live as Christ challenges us.

Thanks for a great week!

God bless you!

Jo-Anne

Advance notice:

- Wed 19th Dec Last day for students
- Thurs 20th Dec Pupil free day
- Thurs 20th Dec Last day for staff
Mission Day

- A note containing details of our Mission Day was sent home with students during the week.
- Each grade is involved in running stalls and activities which raise money and provide lots of fun for everyone.
- The money raised is forwarded to Catholic Missions, who work to assist disadvantaged communities throughout the world.
- This day also helps our school community to become more aware of issues of social injustice in the world and gives us all an opportunity to do something practical in order to help those who are not as fortunate as we are.
- A reminder that BBQ orders need to be returned by Wednesday 24th October. Everyone is welcome to join us for our day of activities.
- Students will need small change (most activities and goodies are $0.50 - $1). It is up to parents to make a decision with their children as to the amount to bring on the day. We suggest that you send along a little purse or zip lock bag.
- Feel free to bring along grandparents and friends – and your gold coins! Sausage Sizzle lunch and afternoon tea available!

Outline of the day

12.00pm - 12.30pm Liturgy – Learning Street
12.45pm - 1.45pm Stalls!
1.45pm - 2.20pm Clean up
2.40pm - 3.15pm Assembly

School Uniform
I think most students are in their summer uniform by now – please make sure they are warm and have a jumper in their bag as some of the days can be quite cool.

A reminder that school hats must be worn during Term 4. No hat – no play!

Learning Journals
Hopefully you have had an opportunity to celebrate the great record of Term 3 learning contained in Learning Journals. Please take a moment to write an encouraging message on the parent page and return them to school as soon as possible.

School Fees
If you are having difficulties in paying your account, please contact Helen or Jo-Anne. While we are committed to supporting all families in our school, we are also obliged to address outstanding fee payments. Your prompt response to your invoice is appreciated. We will follow up on outstanding accounts this Term.

Thank you

Numeracy Testing
The week beginning Monday 3rd December will be used by teachers to conduct numeracy testing with all students while they are at school learning. During the week classes will be supported by our non-classroom teaching staff.

Our program for this week is currently being planned and will provide all students with a range of different learning opportunities and experiences that we hope will result in wonderful engagement, fun and learning.

A great deal of emphasis is being placed on the learning to be gained during the week – even though it is getting close to the end of Term!

If your child is not going to be at school during this week please let Chris Minney know as soon as possible so that we have the opportunity to complete their testing at another time.

2019 Planning
We have already begun our planning for next year and are quite excited about the opportunities for staff and students ahead. As enrolment numbers play a major part in this process please let Jo-Anne know as soon as possible if your family is not returning in 2019.

We are still receiving enrolments for all grades so if you know of families wishing to begin at St Mary’s please let Jo-Anne know or ask them to contact the school. Over the next few weeks teachers will be having days to write student reports and plan for next year. On these days classes will be taught by our valued casual teachers.

Parish News

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MASS TIMES – 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton:</td>
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<td>Dunkeld:</td>
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<td>Glenthompson:</td>
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<td>Penshurst:</td>
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<td>Macarthur:</td>
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Link Up!
A huge thank you to the families who have been generously supporting our Link Up work to support our school families! We are in desperate need to fill the fridge again as it looks a little bare.

If you would like to add to the freezer, which is quite low, suggestions are:

- lasagne
- quiche
- cakes
- slices
- cupcakes
- sausage rolls
- soup
- casseroles …

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24/10/2018</td>
<td>Katrina Turnbull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31/10/2018</td>
<td>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/10/2018</td>
<td>Jodie Nicholson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Can you help with our Canteen Roster?
- If you are interested in finding out what is involved, please contact the office.
- Please remember if we do not have volunteers we cannot run the canteen.

Assembly

Assemblies are held every second Friday in our Learning Street @ 2.40pm.
Our next assembly will be Friday 2nd November. All welcome!

Year 3/4 camp – Grampians Retreat

Monday and Tuesday of this week 43 students headed off to Grampians Retreat for two days of action packed adventures at 3/4 camp. The camp saw the students zipping down the flying fox, competing to build the most weather proof bush hut able to house 14 people (carefully and stringently tested by Dennis), collecting and identifying samples from our waterways and hiking up The Piccanniny. The campers survived thunder storms and, according to Mrs. Water’s Fit Bit, some 44 thousand steps or thereabouts. Needless to say the group returned somewhat weary but having thoroughly enjoyed their experience.

A huge thank you to John Byron and Anthony Walsh for giving their time to join us at camp. Our helpers are invaluable for such activities to go ahead and we appreciate the way they threw themselves into every activity without question and interacted so well with all of the campers. Again thank you, without your help camps like this could not go ahead.

Western District Spelling Competition

Last night, three very enthusiastic super spellers headed to Warrnambool to compete in the Western District Spelling Competition. The students underwent a challenging written spelling test in which they represented St. Mary’s very well. Our team this year was reduced by half due to 5/6 camp, as well as some illness. We are very proud of the efforts of Amy Shelly, Holly Rook and Xavier Wilson and congratulate them on being chosen as part of our team. Well done!

Lisa Schurmann

Pastoral Care

Hello to week two of Term 4! This Term I will be sharing with you “The building blocks of healthy family relationships “taken from the Kids Matter website, the link is given here:

It will cover the subjects:
- Healthy family relationships—what are they?
- Children benefit from healthy family relationships
- Families come in different shapes, sizes and numbers
- Dealing with conflict
- Ways to build healthy family relationships

Today we will begin with:
Healthy family relationships—what are they?
Healthy family relationships help all members of a family feel safe and connected to one another. While all families go through good and difficult times, a family with healthy relationships is still able to interact with one another in a safe and respectful way. Positive interactions between family members outnumber difficult ones. In healthy family relationships, people
are able to trust and rely on each other for support, love, affection and warmth. Families often share common goals and try to work together to reach those goals. For example, children may help their parents and carers to get the dinner dishes done so that everyone can relax or everyone in the family may do their own bit to help save some money to go on a family holiday. Some things we may see in families building positive relationships include:

- each person in the family is valued and respected
- two-way communication exists
- each family member makes an effort to understand and trust the other’s point of view
- family members check in with each other, especially when making important decisions
- adults share responsibility, where possible, for caring roles

Next week we will continue with this topic. Just a quick reminder that I am available on 0400 994 032 should you wish to call with a question or make a confidential appointment.

Have a wonderful week.

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

THE SPORT CATCH UP

On Friday the 12th October Tiago and Grace went to the Regional Athletics in Ballarat. Tiago competed in long jump and hurdles. He jumped 3.81cm which saw him win first place. In hurdles he came second in his heat but fourth overall. Grace ran the 100m dash and finished 4th or 5th. In hurdles she came first in her heat and first over all. It was a great day for both Tiago and Grace as they both won a first place medal and the right to represent St Mary’s at the State Championships.

We are very proud of them and we wish them the best of luck in Melbourne on the 29th October.

Thank you to Lisa Cleaver for driving and supporting both Grace and Tiago on the day, your generosity is much appreciated.

Photos from the grade 5/6 camp
More to follow next week........

Elise Couchman

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS MINE-THON

If you love building in Minecraft, Southern Grampians Shire Council has an event for you!

FREE EVENT, LUNCH INCLUDED

We are looking for creative builders, aged between 10-14 years to play and compete in our virtual Southern Grampians Minecraft world.

WIN great prizes in the following categories:

- BUILT ENVIRONMENT
  Recreate real-world man-made structures from the town
- NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
  Recreate a real feature from our incredible natural environment
- MY DREAM
  Create something you would like to see in your neighbourhood

Sunday 28 October & Sunday 11 November, 9am – 3pm
Greater Hamilton Library, 105 Brown Street, Hamilton

Register at the Greater Hamilton Library or online: www.sgrampians.vic.gov.au
Registrations close, Friday 19 October

PLACE STRICTLY LIMITED

For further information please contact Southern Grampians Shire Council, Ph. 5573 0444