THE GOSPEL OF MARK 12:28-34

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, ‘Which is the first of all the commandments?’ Jesus replied, ‘This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.’

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Students and Friends,

This week the Church marked All Saints Day followed by All Souls Day (today). This is a special feast day on which Catholics celebrate all the saints, known and unknown. While most saints have a particular feast day on the Catholic calendar (usually, though not always, the date of their death) not all of those feast days are observed.

In English, the traditional name for All Saints Day was All Hallows Day (a hallow was a saint or holy person). The vigil or eve of the feast, October 31, is still commonly known as All Hallows Eve, or Halloween! So on these holy feast days, and during the month of November, let us remember with love all of those who have died and who hold a special place in our hearts.

Thanks for a great week!
God bless you! ☺

Jo-Anne

IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

Mon 5th  Pupil free day
Tues 6th  Public holiday – Melbourne Cup
Wed 7th  Prep transition 9.00 – 11.00am
Thurs 8th  Expo meeting @ 6.00pm
Fri 9th  Kanga 8s
Tues 13th  Prep transition 9.00 – 11.30am
Thurs 15th  Prep Parent Info m’ing @ 7.00pm
Fri 16th  Expo parade safety briefing
Wed 21st  Gr 1/2 mass @ Monivae Chapel 10am
Thurs 22nd  Prep transition 9.00 – 12.30
Combined Schools Carols @ Church
Expo meeting @ 6.00pm
Fri 23rd  P/1/2 Excursion
Wed 28th  School Council @ 7.00pm
Advance notice:
- Tues 11th Dec Transition Day
- Fri 14th Dec Swimming Carnival Gr 3 – 6
- Sat 15th/Sun 16th School Mass
- Wed 19th Dec Last day for students
- Thurs 20th Dec Pupil free day
- Thurs 20th Dec Last day for staff

Pupil Free Day
- A reminder that Monday 5th November is a pupil free day for all students.
- Staff will be involved in professional learning related to ‘Mathematics: Fundamentals of Best Practice’. The focus for our day will be around increasing teacher capabilities and in turn student outcomes in the curriculum area of Mathematics.
- This day will be followed by Melbourne Cup which is a public holiday in our Shire.

Mission Day
Well done and thank you to students, parents, staff and friends who contributed to a great Mission Day last Friday. The school was abuzz with positive action to help others! We were thrilled to raise the amazing amount of $1310.85! This money will be sent to Catholic Mission to support their work with communities in need around our world.

A few reminders
- Please make sure you look over your right shoulder as you are leaving the drop off/pick up zone. There have been a few close calls lately.
- Please park if your child is not ready in the pick up area and you are holding up the rest of the line.
- Adults are not to stop and get out of the car in the pick up/drop off zone. If your child needs assistance please park.
- Please pass this information onto grandparents and other people delivering and collecting children.

Congratulations!
I realised in the busy-ness of the last couple of weeks that we haven’t sent out a huge welcome to Jack Richards! Pippa (Prep) was very excited to share the news about her new baby brother at the start of last week. Congratulations to Peta, Scott and family on the wonderful news.

Prayers please
Please keep Lindy Cullinane and her family in your prayers following the loss of their beloved aunt last week.

Our sympathy is also extended to our colleague Chris Cooney from St Joseph’s Coleraine on the sudden death of her husband, Darren.

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS TIMES – 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hamilton:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dunkeld:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glenthompson:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Penshurst:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Macarthur:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/11/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/11/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Tarrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/11/2018</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 16th November.
All welcome!

Icy poles
Dear students, parents and carers,
On Tuesdays and Thursdays Grace, Ava and Phoebe will be raising money for Blair Allen. Blair is only 3 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 but sadly it is still growing.

Help us to help Blair by buying an icy pole for only $1!
Grace, Ava and Phoebe will be selling the icy poles in the 5/6 eating area.
The Cleaver family have donated the first 144 icy poles and it would be very much appreciated if anyone would like to donate some more.
If it is possible to give some icy poles please contact Lisa Cleaver on 0429160888 Thanks
Grace, Ava and Phoebe

ICAS 2018
Student’s results have been received for the final International Competitions and Assessment for Schools 2018 in the areas of English, Mathematics and Writing.
Congratulations to the students who participated and achieved some outstanding results. Thank you to the students who were involved this year whether that was doing one competition or all of them. Certificates were handed out at today’s assembly.

Participation certificates
Charlie Young
Merit certificates – English
Shannon Mhasho
Kaeden Murphy
Holly Rook
Amy Shelly
Credit certificates – English
Will Baker
Distinction certificate- English
Olivia Houlihan (top 5 percent of Year 5 participants in Australia)
Credit certificates – Writing
Amy Shelly
Isabelle Schaap
Will Baker

Distinction certificate- Writing
Holly Rook (top 4 percent of Year 4 participants in Australia)
Credit certificates – Mathematics
Arlo Walsh
Will Baker
Distinction certificate- Mathematics
Holly Rook (top 7 percent of Year 4 participants in Australia)

Congratulations Holly on your Distinction certificates and this is the result of the continued effort you apply to your learning every day.
Olivia, congratulations on your Distinction certificate for English. You are another student who always aims to do your best.
Information about entering the 2019 ICAS will be in the newsletter during first term next year. Please watch out for this information and we hope to see many students taking on these challenges.

Chris Minney

Graduation dinner - year 6
A meeting has been organised on Monday, 12th November at 2.30 pm in the Meeting Room at St Mary’s to start preparations for the Graduation Dinner - Year 6.
All Year 6 parents are invited to attend to help start arranging this special event for the Year 6 students, who I know are already talking about it.
The meeting should only go for approx. 30 minutes and it would be appreciated if you could let either Kylie Tonissen (0418 998 633) or Pauline Perkins (0428 287 113) know if you are able to attend or not.
Thank you

PASTORAL CARE
Good Morning, I am continuing this week with "The building blocks of healthy family relationships “taken from the Kids Matter website, the link is given here: https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/sites/default/files/public/KMECC3-201208-Building%20blocks%20healthy%20family%20relationships.pdf
Children benefit from healthy family relationships
Children thrive on feelings of belonging and affection that come from having caring and supportive families. The quality of family relationships is more important for children’s wellbeing than the size or composition of the family. Whether families with children have one parent or two, whether they include step-parents, grandparents or other carers, they can build strong, positive relationships that
promote family wellbeing and support children’s mental health.

When children receive love and support in a warm family environment, they are better able to take on the childhood tasks of exploring their world and learning new skills. They also learn from the family environment how to connect to other people and build healthy relationships. This helps them experience more positive peer relationships and teaches them how to interact with adults. Children who learn the skills of building healthy relationships are more likely to grow up to become confident and resilient individuals.

I hope you are finding this article interesting. Next week we will look at “Families come in different shapes, sizes and numbers”.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me on: 0400 994 032.

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