



St Mary's Primary School

ADDRESS: 49 Hiller Lane Hamilton 3300

PHONE: 55519000

EMAIL: office@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

WEBSITE: www.smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Patrick Mugavin **PRINCIPAL:** Mrs Terrielynn Groves
SAC CHAIRPERSON: Mr David Knight **CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:** Ms Tania Stevens

Friday 19th February, 2021 – Issue 4

OUR VISION

As a Parish Catholic Primary School, we at St Mary's are committed to creating a vibrant educational community which is safe and nurturing for all children, allowing each child to achieve their full potential, imbued with the Good News of Jesus: one in which each person in our community is enabled to grow in dignity, developing a living, loving relationship with Christ and others.

Treat others the way you would like
to be treated.

Respect Our School

Do Your Best

Help Others to Succeed

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1

- 25th February - Sacramental Meeting @ MacKillop Centre 7-8pm
- 26th February - 2021 Opening MASS - 10am at St Mary's Church for students, staff & Gr 6 parents/carers
- 26th February - ASSEMBLY - live Streamed
- 3rd March - Athletic Sports
- 8th March - Long Weekend
- 12th March - ASSEMBLY - live Streamed
- 26th March - ASSEMBLY - live Streamed
- 1st April - Holy Thursday - End of Term 1

ADVANCE NOTICE

- 19th April - Pupil Free Day - Staff RE PD
- 20th April - Start of Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Plenty can happen in the space of a week when we are living with Covid! We are so grateful for the fact that we have been able to get back to school so quickly. I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding response to the lockdown from our staff, students and families. We grumbled and then got on with it! Thank you so much for the support and understanding that has been shown, particularly over the past three days. It is wonderful to have everyone back!

At this stage, our Opening School Mass will go ahead next Friday with our Gr 6 families joining us up at St Mary's Church. I will let you know if any arrangements need to change.

Thanks for a great week!

Have a wonderful weekend with the people you love,

Terrielynn



CATHOLIC SCHOOL CULTURE



Once again Lent comes to make its prophetic appeal, to remind us that it is possible to create something new within ourselves and around us, simply because God is faithful, always faithful, for He cannot deny himself, he continues to be rich in goodness and mercy and he is always ready to forgive and ready to start afresh.

Pope Francis

Parish News

MASS TIMES – 2021

Hamilton:	Saturday 6pm Sunday 10.30am
Dunkeld:	Sunday 8.30am
Glenthompson:	Sunday 8.30am
Penshurst:	Sunday 8.30am

Opening School Mass

This year our **Opening School Mass will be on Friday 26th February** at 10am at St Mary's Church. Due to Covid restrictions, students and staff will attend this Mass. We also **invite our Gr 6 families** to attend as the Gr 6 students will receive their leadership badges on this day.

Sacramental Program 2020/2021

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

St Mary MacKillop Parish

invites candidates from Gr 3-6 for the

**Sacraments of Initiation: Reconciliation,
Confirmation & First Communion**

Parent meeting

Thursday 25th February 7-8pm

in MacKillop Centre (formerly Dunworth Centre)

ENROLMENTS

Please contact Parish office:

Kymhan on a Wed/Thurs.

5571 1161 or admin@westernborder.church

Candidates enrolled in 2020 program,

please reconfirm with Parish Office, 55711161

You ARE NOT required at the parent meeting but are welcome!

LEARNING AND TEACHING

Information Evening

This year we have decided to use our new found love of technology to deliver a Covid safe Information Evening. On **WEDNESDAY 24th FEBRUARY**, we will be uploading information sessions from all the areas of the school for you to **view at your leisure in the comfort of your home**. Pop the date on your calendar so you know when to look out for the videos.

Sports Catch Up

What a whirlwind of a week we have had so far! From the potential of going back into remote learning and having limited sporting opportunities, we find ourselves back on for 2021! At this present moment, all sporting events are back on their intended dates. I am currently endeavouring to find out if any sporting dates will be changed. I will share this information with you as soon as possible when it comes to hand!

Saturday Morning Netball

As I was writing the sports catch up last week, all of our girls participating in Saturday morning netball were extremely eager to begin netball for the year! Hopefully, Saturday morning netball

will begin this weekend with no other interruptions! Another reminder to please bring your medical and media forms on Saturday morning. We wish you the best of luck, but most of all, have fun!

U/11's: 8:30am v College Owls (Court 5)

U/13's: 9:45am v Dunkeld Rams (Court 9)

School Athletics – Wednesday 3rd March

Our Athletics Day is being held on Wednesday 3rd March! It will run from 9.30am – 2.30pm on the Monivae Oval. A massive thank you to everyone so far who has returned the slip and is willing to volunteer on the day. I will put together a roster shortly, based on your preferences to help on the day. If you are able to help in any way, could you please return the bottom slip of the letter by Friday 19th February. I have plenty of spare letters if you need another one!

Division Swimming – Friday 12th March

With the unforeseen circumstances surrounding last year and us being unable to run a school swimming carnival, qualification for the Division Swimming is different this year. If your child has turned 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 by the 30/12/2020, they are eligible to register.

If you wish to enter your child, please send through the 50m times for their events. Please email these to me as soon as possible, so we can begin organising this. Thank you to those people who have emailed me so far.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday Morning Netball begins – 20th February

School Athletics – Wednesday 3rd March @ Monivae

District Athletics – Thursday 11th March @ Pedrina Park

Division Swimming – Friday 12th March @ Aquazone, Warrnambool

Regional Swimming – Friday 19th March @ Horsham

Latham Wishart

lwishart@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

WELLBEING

Child Safety

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

Child Safety Tips From Our Students

It is not a good idea to talk to strangers.

Phoebe Hayes Gr 1

It is important to look after your friends at school and make sure they are alright.

Xavier Logan Gr 1

Pastoral Care

Hello again, Oh, dear here we are in Week 4 and have been back in lockdown, happily though, not for long.

This is the final week of the sleep article which can be found on website: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/sleep/understanding-sleep/school-age-sleep>

Obstructive Sleep Apnoea

If your child has obstructive sleep apnoea, it means that they sometimes stop breathing when they're asleep. Your child might snore, pause or struggle while breathing at night. You might notice that your child seems tired during the day. If you think your child has sleep apnoea, see your GP.

Night Terrors and Nightmares

Night terrors are when your child suddenly gets very agitated while deeply asleep. They're less common than nightmares and usually disappear by puberty. Night terrors don't harm your child, who often won't remember them in the morning. But they can be scary for you. Night terrors usually happen in the first few hours after falling asleep.

Nightmares are very common in early school-age children, and nightmares are often scary enough to wake children up. As children get older, they get better at understanding that a dream is just a dream. Nightmares happen in the second half of the night, which is when your child dreams the most.

Sleeptalking and Sleepwalking

Many school-age children sleeptalk, especially if they're excited or worried about an event like a holiday or a test. Sleeptalking is nothing to worry about. Calmly talking with your child about whatever is worrying them might help reduce sleeptalking.

Sleepwalking happens when your child's mind is asleep but their body is awake. It sometimes runs in families, and it can also be caused by anxiety or a lack of sleep. Sleepwalking usually doesn't need treatment, and most children grow out of it as teenagers.

Sleepwalking and sleeptalking usually happen in the first few hours after falling asleep, when your child is in deep sleep.

Teeth-grinding and Thumb-Sucking During Sleep

Many children grind their teeth in their sleep. It doesn't mean there's anything wrong with your child, and it usually doesn't cause damage. If you're concerned about your child's teeth-grinding or thumb-sucking, talk to your dentist.

I hope this was of interest.

My contact details are 0400 994 032 or email lisa.gonnet@centacarewarrnambool.org.au

Lisa Gonnet, Schools Pastoral Care Worker

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Assembly

Our next assembly will be on **Friday 26th February at 2.40pm**. We will continue to live stream these events so everyone can view them.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

Our School Advisory Council met for the first time last Wednesday evening. One of the things

that was discussed was an idea from Tara Kuilboer to donate our student's old share folders and pencil cases to Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. What a great idea! Each year our students get new share folders and pencil cases and often (not always!) the ones from the previous year are still in good condition. Tara has kindly offered to give them all a wash and then we can send them off. So...if you have some share folders and pencil cases at home that are in good condition and you would like to donate them, start sending them our way next week. Thanks!



Environmental Sustainability

A huge **thank you** to the families who are working hard to limit plastic and food packaging in our school. It is wonderful to see so many reusable containers being used.

Our Environmental Sustainability Leaders are doing a stellar job of collecting the scrap buckets, feeding the chooks and cleaning the buckets each day.

Did you know? Food waste that is placed in general rubbish adds to the harmful gases that are destroying our ozone layer.

We have made a commitment at St. Mary's to do our bit to help eradicate these gases.

Keep up the great work everyone!

Left: Chase and Arlo are happy Environmental Warriors!

Catherine Egan

Canteen

Due to continued Covid restrictions, **we will not be having canteen** from Monivae for Terms 1 and 2. Watch this space for Term 3!

Icy Poles

This term we are selling icy poles every Friday for \$1.00 each. We are raising money for the Friends of the Botanic Gardens and the fantastic projects they are working on. We will be selling them at second lunch near the 5/6 tables.

Ruby Cleaver

LEADERSHIP & STEWARDSHIP

Covid Update

It is fortunate that we have been able to mostly return to the restrictions that were in place before lockdown. Just a few reminders -

- Masks need to be worn inside our school and outside if you can not physically distance
- Students that need to be walked into school can be dropped off at their homeroom doors
- Adults that are onsite for more than 15 minutes need to register their details at the office

Toys at School

NO TOYS from home allowed!



Thank you for your understanding!!

Just a reminder that students are not to bring toys or sports equipment to school. It is extremely hard to manage the extras that might come in from home and they often get broken or lost. If toys could remain at home it would save a lot of heartache!

Car Park

Unfortunately due to safety issues, we are unable to use the Monivae car park any more. A number of our staff have generously offered to park at Monivae to free up some more parking spots here at St Mary's, which you are welcome to use should you need to park. The parking at school is tight and we are currently exploring our options to increase the capacity. Your patience and understanding in the meantime is greatly appreciated.

Town Bus Fares

The town bus service (Buses 8 and 14) is again charging for this service. The cost is \$1.20 one way and \$2.40 for a daily ticket. If you would like a weekly, term or yearly bus pass, please contact Trotters Coaches directly. Thank you.

School Fees

School Fees for 2021 have been sent home today. Direct Debit forms are available from the office. If you would prefer to set up your own Direct Debit, the account details are located on the top right side of your fee statement. All accounts are due by 31st August, 2021 unless you are on a regular payment plan.

The Family Fee Assistance scheme will be available again in 2021. Families who qualify for the scheme (you hold a Health Care Card or Pension card) will pay \$520 per annum for primary school tuition. The discounted fee covers **tuition and capital fees only**. It does not cover additional charges such as camps, student fees, and excursions. Please note that students who are holders of Health Care Cards are not eligible. An application form needs to be completed and are available at the office. The forms, plus a copy of your current Centrelink card, must be received by **Friday 19th February, 2021** during the year your circumstances change and you become eligible for Centrelink, please come and discuss this with Helen.

If you have any queries concerning your account, please contact me at the office or via helen@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

Thank you, Helen

Family Fee Assistance

The Education Maintenance Allowance is no longer funded by the Government. However, the Ballarat Diocese has maintained their commitment to continue the Family Fee Assistance Scheme. The scheme offers a tuition fee concession to families who hold a current Centrelink or Veteran Affairs concession card. Please note that students who are holders of Health Care Cards are not eligible. Families who qualify for the scheme will pay \$520 per annum for primary school tuition fees. The discounted fee covers **tuition and capital fees only**. It does not cover additional charges such as camps, student fees, and excursions. Please find enclosed a brochure which outlines the details of the scheme. An application form needs to be completed and are available at the office. **These forms must be received by Friday 19th February, 2021**. If during the year your circumstances change and you become eligible for Centrelink, please come and discuss this with Helen. Although a family may be eligible to receive a fee discount, families may choose not to apply for the fee discount and pay the full school fee.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form.

If you applied for CSEF last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Please check at the school office if you are unsure.

Application forms are available at the office. Please return these forms, with a copy of your concession card. Completed forms must be returned by **Friday 19th February, 2021**. If you would like further information, please see Helen or Shannon in the office.

Hamilton Miniature Railway Group Presents

Teddy Bear Picnic

Sunday 14th March 2021
11am-3.30pm

Pastoral Museum - Hiller lane Hamilton



Bring your Teddy to ride on the trains

See the special 'Teddy Bear Train'
Listen to the Hamilton Brass Band
Enjoy the sausage sizzle

**SPECIAL DAY
TRAIN FARE \$12**

Unlimited + A sausage & Drink
or single ride for \$4

Face painting
Teddy Bear Workshop
Emergency Services
Vintage Car Rides
& More

Enclosed footwear must be worn

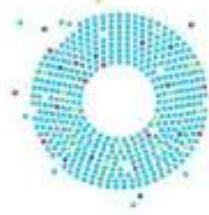
For further information call Jim 0407 951 371

**BANDICOOT
MOTOR INN**
5572 1688
152 Ballarat Rd, Hamilton

TAPPER BUILDERS **coles**

**KINGS
BAKERY**


Southern Grampians
SHIRE COUNCIL



Great South Coast
**ECONOMIC
MIGRATION
PROJECT**

EAL Kids Connect

*A program for Primary School Children who speak
English as an Additional Language (EAL)*

Make New Friends • Create Connections • Develop Skills



Join in the Fun!

To register your interest:

Contact Cindy Riddle:

Phone: 0438 319 274 Email: cindyariddle@gmail.com

EAL Kids Connect - Term One 2021				
Time	Date	Activity	Venue	Address
3.45pm – 4.45pm	10 th Feb	Board Games and Books	Uniting Church	113 Lonsdale St, Hamilton
	24 th Feb	Problem solving and creating	Gray St Primary School	42 Kennedy St, Hamilton
	10 th March	Board Games and Books	Uniting Church	113 Lonsdale St, Hamilton
	24 th March	Collaborative Art Project	Gray St Primary School	42 Kennedy St, Hamilton

