Dear Parents

ARTS SPECTACULAR – ALL CHILDREN INVOLVED
Our ARTS SPECTACULAR is on WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER. It is a FANTASTIC night and one NOT to be missed. It commences at 6.30 pm. with a concert in the church when ALL CHILDREN will be involved in performing songs that celebrate music from the 50’s, 60’s, 70’s till now. They are all very excited about performing for their family and friends. After the concert all families are invited to join us in the school grounds for a BYO picnic. The Parents and Friends will be running a bar where beer, wine and soft drink can be purchased. During this time our Art Show will open. You will be in AWE of the wonderful art work that is on display and your children will love showing you their creative talents and the master pieces they have made. The art will be displayed both upstairs and downstairs in the TRI Centre. See you there!

HEALTHY BREAKFAST
Fifty of our students enjoyed a yummy breakfast early on Wednesday morning, as part of our November Healthy Family Challenge, consisting of delicious fruit, smoothies, and homemade muffins. The children then had a great time doing lots of energetic activities in Fun and Fitness. A HUGE thank you for organising the morning to Margaret Masseni and Penny Ealem (Kate & Hannah’s mum) and a very hardworking and generous group of parents and staff who helped them set up, serve and make the breakfast.

DRESS UP YOUR SHOES
On Wednesday 26th November we are asking everyone to dress up their shoes eg. add ribbons, stripes, stickers etc. to school or other shoes and also donate old pair/s that will be given to the IN YOUR SHOES FOUNDATION who will distribute them to needy families. More information about what will happen on this day can be found later in the newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS
Well Done to Olivia Yacono, a Year Six student, who has been selected to represent Victoria in the National Athletic Championships to be held in Tasmania next weekend. Olivia will take part in the 100mts, 4x100mts relay and long jump. She was also chosen to be the Vice Captain of the Victorian Team. Good luck Olivia we know you will do your BEST!

PREP – YEAR 1/2 SWIMMING & SAFETY PROGRAM
Our Junior Swimming and Safety program will commence on Monday 24th November. It will held Monday to Wednesday over the next three weeks. Parents with students in these classes please ensure you have read notices that have already been sent to you with details about the program and what your child needs to bring and wear. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help. If you are able to help, but have not replied, please see your child’s teacher. Due to our junior swimming program being held in Weeks 8, 9 and 10 the Year 3/4 children will be having their specialist subjects on Tuesday and the Year 1/2 children will be having specialists on Thursday. PLEASE NOTE that these children will need to wear their sports uniform on the changed day.

2015 OPEN WEEK.
Next week from Tuesday through to Friday our 2015 prep children will be spending an hour in a prep classroom so they can become a little more familiar with the school. Parents come along with their child from 9.00 – 10.00 am on the date they selected at the Information evening. We have had a GREAT response to our GAGS (Get a Good Start for School) program with LOTS of 2015 preps and parents coming along on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Next week will be the last two session.

YEAR 3/4 GARDENING GROUP
LOTS of our Year 3/4 students have been bringing home delicious cabbages, lettuce, spring onions and much more from our veggie garden which they have been caring for throughout the year. Check out the photos in our school website photo gallery.

BIKE EDUCATION
You may have seen a few more students with bikes around the school than usual over the past two week. It is because our Year 3/4 students have been taking part in the school Bike Education safety program. The focus is on learning how to care for themselves when riding and how to look after their bike. They have had great fun and next week 3/4M will also enjoy the program.

Gwenda Burnett
Deputy Principal.
PARISH NEWS

Visitation of the Sick & House Blessings:
If you are unwell and/or would like to have your house blessed, please contact the Parish House on 9398 2964 with your details and Fr. Shabin will visit you before Christmas or during the New Year. A special way for all our school families to meet and welcome our new Parish Priest.

Parish Nativity Play
All St. Mary’s students are invited to be part of our parish Nativity Play which takes place on Christmas Eve before the 7pm Family Vigil Mass. Rehearsals will take place on Sunday 7, 14 & 21st December from 10.00 to 11.00 am in the Church. Parts for the play will be chosen on Sunday November 30th (Please meet in the Narthex) Children are expected to attend all 3 rehearsals, however if this is a problem please let a member of the Children’s Liturgy know or phone Lucy at the Parish House on 9398 2964. Permission Forms are available from the Narthex, School Office or Parish House. Completed forms may be left in the box provided in the Narthex, School Office or placed in the Parish House letterbox (marked Attention Lucy) by no later than Sunday 23rd November.

ADVENT LITURGIES

Every classroom will be involved in a school Advent Liturgy in the coming weeks. Please make an effort to attend your child’s prayer celebration at our church, as we wait and hope in the Birth of Jesus.

Advent Liturgy Week 1
Mon 24th Nov – 5/6C. 2.40 pm
Advent Liturgy Week 2
Fri 5th Dec - 2.30pm - 1/2K, 3/4M, 5/6G
Advent Liturgy Week 3
Fri 12th Dec - 2.30pm - 1/2H, 3/4S, 5/6V
Advent Liturgy Week 4
Mon 15th Dec - 11.30am - Prep S, Prep H, 1/2D, 3/4L

DURING ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORKS OF CHARITY ABOUND!! EACH CLASSROOM AND THE STAFFROOM WILL BE PRESENTED WITH A BASKET/BOX TO FILL AS A CHRISTMAS HAMPER FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL, ALTONA. PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO SEND SOMETHING ALONG WITH YOUR CHILD FOR THE HAMPER. THANK YOU.

“Take time to be aware that in the very midst of our very busy preparations for the celebration of Christ’s birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the Bethlehems of our homes and daily lives. Take time, slow down, be still, be awake to the Divine Mystery that looks so common and so ordinary yet is wondrously present.” Edward Hays

Year 5/6G will be attending our Parish Mass at 9:15am on Friday 21st November. Please come, celebrate, sit with and join your children in prayer.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
* All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.

Olive Chodowski - REL
“i cannot forget that there is a dear good God watching over us.”
St. Mary of the Cross Mackillop-1871

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:
Congratulations to the following children who received Principals Awards on Monday:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREP H</td>
<td>Andrew Souglaris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP S</td>
<td>Donovan Sarai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Kilian Yeager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2K</td>
<td>Raphael Hipolito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2D</td>
<td>Ciara O’Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Mitchell Srbinovski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4S</td>
<td>Tam Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4L</td>
<td>Liam Denys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Isabelle Paras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6V</td>
<td>Portia Fenech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6G</td>
<td>Jessica Offen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALTAR SERVICE ROSTER
Saturday 22nd November at 6.30 pm
Grace Bosnar and Maria Nguyen
Sunday 23rd November at 9.00 am
Rowan Cucanic and Faith Kissassi

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

NOVEMBER

Monday 24th
Prayer Assembly 5/6C- 2.40 pm
Prep, Year 1 & 2 Swimming Program Day 1
Tuesday 25th
Prep, Year 1 & 2 Swimming Program Day 2
GAGS Session 2.45 – 3.15 pm
Wednesday 26th
Prep, Year 1 & 2 Swimming Program Day 3
Thursday 27th
GAGS Session 2.45 – 3.15 pm

CHANGE OF SPECIALIST DAYS
FOR Year 1/2 & Year 3/4
Due to our Junior swimming program being held in Weeks 8, 9 & 10 the Year 3/4 children will be having their specialist subjects on Tuesday and the Year 1/2 children will be having specialists on Thursday. PLEASE NOTE that children will need to wear their sports uniform on the changed day.

LITERACY NEWS

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE
This year we celebrated the tenth year of the annual Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge. More than 205,550 participants from almost 2,350 early childhood settings, schools and home took up the Challenge in 2014. At St. Mary’s we had 107 students meet the Challenge by reading a wide variety of novels, picture books, short stories, poems and non-fiction stories that they read or were read to them. We know that literacy is a vital part of every child’s education and that developing a love of reading is one of the key ways to improve literacy skills.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2014 PREMIER READING CHALLENGE CHAMPS and we hope to see LOTS more students take up the challenge in 2015. Parents I ask you to support your child to participate next year in this rewarding program. At the school assembly on Monday ALL Reading Champs received a certificate from the Premier of Victoria, The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP.
ARE YOU BEING REWARDED 4 YOUR READING?
The aim is to encourage students to read and be REWARDED for their reading. HOW are they REWARDED?
They
- Become better readers
- Build a great word vocabulary
- Discover great joy and pleasure in reading
- Develop imagination
- Extend their knowledge
- Improve skills in other subject areas
- Earn HOUSE team points.

We are going to trial this initiative during October and November and then get feedback from students and staff on its success. Representatives will speak to classes about R4R and leave forms in classrooms for students to complete. You can also find a copy of the form on the website, in classrooms, near the R4R box and in this week’s newsletter...START being REWARDED for your READING.

SCHOLASTIC SUMMER READING CHALLENGE
Lodge your READING MINUTES EVERY WEEK for an automatic entry to the weekly prize draw. Every week you have a chance to win $50 from the Scholastic Store.

Registration for the challenge opens on 1st December.

Get reading for 10 minutes or more every day!

REMEMBER children who read for at least 10 MINUTES a day over summer school holidays have a better start to the new school year than children who spend little or no time reading. GO TO www.scholastic.com.au/competitions.

Extra ideas for reading can be found on school website.

Gwenda Burnett
Deputy Principal / Literacy Leader.

NORMIE THE GNOME
Normie the Gnome is awarded to the House Team who keeps their part of the yard the cleanest. This week's winner is: RED TEAM

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 24th November

Wednesday
Karoline Fanjek
Thursday
Lilia Sougleris
Friday
Cathy Hills
Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN
WEDNESDAYS AFTERNOONS ONLY 3.00 – 3.30 PM

If you are unable to visit our shop, order forms can be collected from the School Foyer and complete with payment left at the School Office anytime. Orders will be filled on the next open day and can be left for collection at the School Office or sent to your child’s classroom.

Leah Byrne Co-ordinator

Parents and Friends News

ARTS SPECTACULAR

Bar Open
Pack your picnics and catch up with friends in the schoolyard for a picnic dinner. The Parents and Friends will have the bar open, so wine, beer and soft drinks can be purchased on the night.

Guess How Many Lollies are in the Jar
We will be holding a competition to Guess How Many Lollies Are In The Jar at $1 for 2 guesses on the night. The winner takes home a giant jar of M & M’s. A huge thank you to the Umana family for donating all of the assorted M & M’s to fill our big lolly jar.

Christmas Raffle
The Parents and Friends are also running a Christmas Raffle for the Arts Spectacular. Raffle tickets can be bought on the night and will be $2 each, $5 for 3, or $10 for 7 tickets. The main prize is a Gourmet Christmas Hamper. Thank you to those families who have generously donated scrumptious items to fill our hamper already. We’re still looking for donations, so if you’d like to contribute a non-perishable gourmet item (i.e. wine, boutique beer, chocolates, biscuits, sauces, jams, relishes, lollies, chips, crackers etc.) please leave it at the School Office.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL MORNING TEA
The Parents and Friends would like to host a morning tea on behalf of St. Mary’s School Community to welcome all the new and existing parents of 2015. If you are able to help with this event please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter and return it to the School Office as soon as possible.

HEALTHY FAMILY CHALLENGE
Just one last week for the HEALTHY FAMILY CHALLENGE.

Thanks to the children and parents who have sent in some photos for our facebook page and website. Millie made a great salad at home. Samantha has been loving her new kale chips. Oscar has been trying lots of green veggies. Check out our facebook page to see them.

BREAKFAST
Around 50 children came to breakfast and then followed up with Fun & Fitness on Wednesday.

A healthy breakfast of home-made muffins (thanks MaryLinda, Marita, Leanne, Lilia and Michelle), fresh fruit and berry smoothies were on the menu.

Thanks Penny for organising the event and also to the parents and staff who came along to set up, serve and clean up and also to run Fun & Fitness.

Photos on facebook and outside the staffroom.

Try to find some ways to be a little more active, to eat a little healthier and to make yourself and the community a little happier and livelier.

Good luck – we are hoping that lots of families take up the challenge (it’s not too late) and have many great experiences while doing it.

If you didn’t get a calendar, please contact me – mmasseni001@smaltona.catholic.edu.au
DRESS UP YOUR SHOES – 26TH NOVEMBER
Dress up your shoes and bring along some old shoes to donate to the IN YOUR SHOES foundation. This is our 5th year being involved in the project – let’s make it our best! Shoes will be collected on the netball court from 8.30 – 8.45 am – if you forget you can bring them in until Friday.

IF YOU CAN HELP COLLECT AND BAG THE SHOES, PLEASE EMAIL ME – THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY VOLUNTEERED
mmasseni001@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

IN YOUR SHOES is a project whereby individuals and groups can donate shoes, especially second-hand, wearable shoes, while at the same time seeking to divert them from ending up in landfill. Importantly, the In Your Shoes program is designed so that disadvantaged and at risk young people are provided with training and employment opportunities throughout the collection and sorting process.

The program operates as follows. Individuals or groups organise a shoes collection program (either over several days or weeks) and, upon completion, Kids Off The Kerb arranges to pick up the shoes and transport them to its warehouse space in Thomastown, Victoria, where they are then sorted. Depending on the quality and quantity of the shoes received, they are redistributed and recycled in various ways including to disadvantaged individuals and communities through collaboration with other charities; directly through Kids Off The Kerb’s outreach projects; through our “e-Bin” project, which is Kids Off The Kerb’s virtual op shop; or by export to developing countries in order to provide affordable shoes to needy individuals and communities.

DOING IT RIGHT Week 7 Term 4
Prep H: Lila, Isabelle N, Amber, Keely
1/2D: Jacob
3/4L: Hannah
5/6V: Angelique
For helping Mrs Vella solve a problem, being resilient, sharing school values, taking pride in the environment and loads of other great things!

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH
CONGRATULATIONS TO…
Elizabeth Teshomi for always trying her best and making responsible choices.
Dominic Carbone for being extremely hard working and well behaved. He is a good friend and is always willing to help others.
Blake Nicholls for exhibiting model behavior at St. Mary’s.

ACTIVE TRANSPORT
Thanks to everyone who came to school in an active way on Tuesday. Many thanks to the parents who supervised our Walking School Buses. 5/6G were our Most Active Grade – well done.

Our next Walk / Ride to School Day is on 10th December.

For our participation in Walk To School Campaign for October we received a cheque for $200 at our assembly last Monday from the Hobsons Bay Council. The Award was presented by Jason Price – local councillor and father of Anthony 3/4 L. Thanks to the many families who supported our WALK TO SCHOOL OCTOBER CAMPAIGN which resulted in us receiving the award.

Parent information evening entitled ‘The Impact of Video Games on Children and Young People’.

When: Wednesday 3 December 2014
Time: 6.45 to 8.30 pm with a 7.00 pm start
Where: Laverton Community Hub
95-105 Railway Avenue, Laverton
RSVP: RSVP is essential
Thursday 27 November 2014
Call 9932 4000 or email
lpetroff@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Margaret Masseni
Wellbeing and P/E Sport Leader

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE AT ST. MARYS
Camp Australia
WE MAKE KIDS SMILE!
Phone: 1300 105 343 / (03) 9398 4065
www.campaustalia.com.au
1731 Malvern Road, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146
info@campaustalia.com.au
Fax: (03) 8610 2044
For Out of School Hours Care at St. Marys (CAMP AUSTRALIA) bookings or cancellations please contact them direct.
First Day of School Morning Tea
9.00 – 10.00am
In The School Hall

The Parents & Friends would like to host a morning tea on behalf of St Mary’s School Community to welcome all the new and existing parents of 2015.
So, come along and join us in the hall after drop off on the first day of school and catch up with old friends & meet some new people.
We really need your support to help make this event a success. We’ll need helpers to set up and then pack up the hall, and we’ll need lots of scrumptious items to serve. So, if you enjoy baking we’d greatly appreciate a cake, slice, biscuits or scones. If you could please bring them cut up and ready to serve and drop them off at the school hall.
If you are able to assist with any of the following please complete this form and return it as soon as possible.
If you have any queries please contact Patrice Cassar: jpc.pec@bigpond.com

I AM ABLE TO HELP WITH THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL MORNING TEA

☐ I can help set up in the hall … 8.20 – 8.45 am (all or part of that time)

☐ I can bake or purchase a plate of cakes, biscuits or slices and drop them off pre-cut to the hall by 8.45 am.

☐ I can help to pack up and clean up … 10.00 – 10.45 am

Helper’s Name……………………………………………………………………………………………………

Child’s Name & Grade…………………………………………………………………………………………

Contact No. ……………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Email ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………....