

St Mary's School Newsletter

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Volume 3: Issue 2

8 August 2017

St Mary's Catholic School is a community that walks in the footsteps of Jesus and works in partnership with families in the Josephite tradition, to develop and educate the whole child.

St Mary's School Board Members

Fr. Joseph Thippabathini, PA
Kathy Barlow 5856 7335, Chairperson
Rob Donovan 0418 576 306
Jo Miller 0438 561 634

Catherine Fraser, Principal
John Arnel 0438 567 257
Amy Francis 0429 186 273

Katie Rasmussen, Deputy Principal
Renea Cruz 0424 245 442
Stephen Francis 0418 178 630
Lisa Hitchcock

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



St Mary's acknowledges the Taungurung people, the traditional custodians of the land on which our school is situated. We commit to working in partnership with Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Have courage and patience and God will help you in all things."

15.8.1899

VALUES OF THE WEEK

Love and Compassion

Confirmation

Many parents have sat in the Church on the day of their child's Confirmation and wondered about the meaning of what they are about to witness. They and their children have been told that Confirmation is to Baptism as full growth is to birth and that as Baptism enabled us to become children of God, so confirmation enables us to become mature Christians. Carol Luebering in her book, "Your Child's Confirmation", offers us an understanding of this concept:

It is difficult to speak of Confirmation as a Sacrament of 'mature' commitment. Human commitment is forever an evolving commitment. The vows made on a wedding day have to be rethought and remade many times over the years. Our faith commitment undergoes similar change. Every time we brush against mystery – the wonder of birth, the pain of loss, the frustrations of everyday life - our concept of God changes a bit. We have to choose belief all over again."

Confirmation can be understood as a deepening of the gifts received at Baptism as it:

- Roots us more deeply in our identity as God's children,
- Unites us more firmly with Christ,
- Increases in us the gifts of the Holy Spirit,
- Binds us more closely to the Church
- Gives us special strength to witness to our Catholic faith

However Confirmation might be compared to the fate of two soccer balls given as gifts to two separate people. The first person, when given the ball says, "Wow, let's get out and play with it!" This they do on a regular basis and so develop a variety of skills and knowledge about how to use the ball, when

alone and in association with other people. The second person accepts their ball graciously, appears happy with the gift but when the party is over puts the ball into a cupboard and doesn't give it another thought. The moral of the story, gifts need to be used if they are to fulfil their potential value.

Maybe you are a parent who, as a child, put your "soccer ball" into the cupboard. Perhaps your child's Confirmation could be a trigger for you to take it out again and begin consciously to model its "gifts" to your children by the actions of your life.

Kathy Coffey author and mother offered this insight: "The genius of the Catholic Sacraments is the bold claim they make that through Sacramental actions, God comes among us.

Through this laying on of hands, this anointing with Chrism (oil mixed with balsam) and the saying of words, we receive the same Spirit that Jesus received at His Baptism and that the apostles received at Pentecost. As we sit in the Church and take part in the ceremony this Sunday we will witness our children go forth from Confirmation, anointed, signed with Christ's cross, gifted with peace and empowered for service. We can continue to pray for your children in the words of the Bishop:

"Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their helper and guide.

Give them the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding,
the Spirit of Right Judgement and Courage,
the Spirit of Knowledge and Reverence.

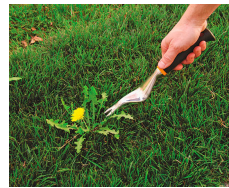
Fill them with the Spirit of Wonder and Awe
In your presence. Amen"

From L Burke

Best wishes to our students; Grace Barlow, Zahley Francis and Jackie Jones who will join with other Sacramental candidates from other parts of the parish to celebrate their first Communion and Confirmation next Sunday, August 13th at St Laurence's Church, Stanhope.

Regards,
Catherine Fraser
PRINCIPAL





August Families
K Langman
A & J Williams
M & A McLean

Every Monday	<u>Bluearth</u> (runners required)
10 Aug (Thu)	<u>"Ditto" Bravehearts Visit</u> Years Foundation to 3 only @ 11:30am <u>Sacramental Preparation</u> St Laurence's Church, Stanhope
11 Aug (Fri)	<u>Transition 2018 Foundation Students</u> 8:50am - 11:35am <u>Fr Joseph back from overseas</u> <u>NCCD Due Today</u>
13 Aug (Sun)	<u>Confirmation and First Eucharist</u> St Laurence's Church, Stanhope @ 10:00am
14-16 Aug (Mon-Wed)	<u>Billabong Ranch Camp 2017, Echuca</u> Years 3/4 only
23 Aug (Wed)	<u>Board Meeting - Notre Dame College, Shepparton</u> 6:00 - 8:00pm
28 Aug (Mon)	<u>P&F Meeting</u> 9:00am in the Staff Room
29 Aug (Tue)	<u>Athletics (Years 3-6), Shepparton</u> McEwan Reserve, Shepparton
30 & 31 Aug (Wed & Thu)	<u>Father's Day Stalls</u>
1 Sep (Fri)	<u>Father's Day Breakfast</u> Breakfast served from 7:30am
13 Sep (Wed)	<u>Production – Dress Rehearsal</u> Time TBA
14 Sep (Thu)	<u>Pirates – The Musical</u> School hall @ 7:00pm
20 Sep (Wed)	<u>Pupil Free Day</u> Staff Reflection Day
21 Sep (Fri)	<u>Festival of the Sacred, Shepparton</u> Years 5/6 only <u>Last day of term 3/2017</u> School finishes @ 2:20pm
10 Nov (Fri)	<u>School Fete</u> 4:00 – 8:00pm

GARDENING

The August gardening group is asked to please weed, sweep and dust cobwebs around the school gardens/grounds. Thank you for your assistance.

NATIONAL CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA (NCCD)

DUE FRIDAY, 11 AUGUST 2017

St Mary's School is participating in the National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with a disability. This data collection is taking place in Government, Catholic and Independent schools across Australia, and will provide valuable information and support required for a broad group of students.

This in turn will help schools give students with a disability the support they need. The data collection is not limited to students with a diagnosed disability. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which describes a broad range of health and learning conditions for which schools are required to provide 'reasonable adjustments' to support students to participate on the basis as other students. More information about the data collection is available at:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parent/s/needs/Pages/nccd.aspx>

or, you can contact Katherine Jamieson (kjamieson@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au) for further information.

If you do not consent for your child's name to be included in the data collection, you must return the consent form which has been sent home today, to the school by **FRIDAY,**

11 AUGUST 2017. If the form is returned, your child's data will be included in the data collection but they will be identified as Student A, Student B, Student C, etc.



**Nationally Consistent
Collection of Data**
School Students with Disability

HELP WANTED! SRC – MARBLE RUN

During our excursion to the Discovery Centre in Bendigo in Term 1, the students had the opportunity to create a marble run. A marble run is an invention where the students use materials to assist their marble to travel down the board. The aim is to keep the marble moving and take the longest time to reach the bottom of the board.

One of the best features of this run is that the materials can be recycled. We're basically looking for anything that could assist a marble to move down the board. The sorts of materials we are looking for are:

- ✂ Cut assorted lengths of copper pipe, plastic electrical conduit, or PVC
 - ✂ Flexible tubing
 - ✂ Funnels
 - ✂ Masking tape
 - ✂ Duct tape
 - ✂ String
 - ✂ Pegs
 - ✂ Kebab sticks
(these hold the materials onto the board)
 - ✂ Plastic cups
 - ✂ Balloons

If you can assist with this or have any materials the students could use, please drop them off to the 5/6 classroom.

NUTRITION PROJECT YEAR 5/6 ONLY

A letter was sent home in Week 1 detailing an at-home project that the students will be completing this term, and then bringing into school to present to the class on Tuesday, 12 September (Week 9). Basically, the students need to document themselves cooking a healthy meal for their family. They can present their project by making a poster or a video. As stated on the information sheet, I will be available early on Friday mornings (from 8:00am until 8:50am) to assist with this.

SUSTAINABILITY WITH VEOLIA

The SRC have been working with Amy and Matt from Veolia to improve the sustainability practices at St Mary's. In their first visit to the school, Amy and Matt assessed the current practices St Mary's use and were very impressed with the way we recycle organic food scraps and create compost or chicken food from it. Last week, Amy came back and visited again, providing Miss Smith with some feedback on

areas for improvement. In the next few weeks, Miss Smith will be working with the SRC to implement these strategies across the school. Keep an eye out in the Shepp News for the St Mary's SRC article.



Jess, Marcos & Zaydyn.

ST MARY OF THE CROSS FEAST DAY

Today was the feast of Mary of the Cross MacKillop and we welcomed St Joseph's School, Nagambie teachers and students to celebrate our common connection with the Joesphite Sisters and Mary MacKillop. All students enjoyed a prayer service followed by variety of activities with a focus on Mary MacKillop. We were delighted to welcome the Josephite Associates to our prayer service and for morning tea at school.

Thanks to staff and in particular our REC Mrs Hitchcock for the prior planning and organization today.

Thank you to the families for cooking the BBQ and to everyone who came along and helped us celebrate.

"Never see a need without doing something about it."

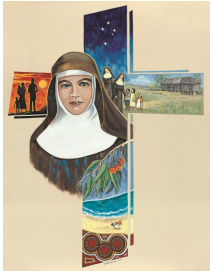
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (1871)

We give thanks for the life of St Mary of the Cross and for her continued influence for good among the people of Australia. St Mary of the Cross' influence is very much present at St Mary's School and for that we are all very grateful. We are all called to be people of action, trust in God, live out the Gospel and never see a need without doing something about it.

We also give thanks for the decades of down-to-earth ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph who,

having seen a need, such as in education, nursing or social work, answered it with generosity. When asked back in 1954 to come and teach the children of St Mary's Parish they answered that call with great generosity. Our school and parish have been and continue to be very fortunate recipients of that generosity through all of the Sisters who have given service over the years and through Sr Nellie who continues to serve our community so generously.

The following is the next part of St Mary of the Cross' story when she moves to Penola, South Australia.



When Mary was 18 years old she moved to Penola in South Australia to be a governess for her aunt and uncle, Margaret and Alexander Cameron's children. Mary taught the Cameron children and soon began to teach other children

who had no other opportunities for education available to them. She taught those who were in need.

It was at Penola that Mary met Fr Julian Woods.

Fr Woods was a priest at the local Catholic Church who had been at Penola for 4 years. St Mary's School two house teams are MacKillop and Woods, named in honour of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Woods. Mary made many friends at Penola and enjoyed the small town's hospitality. She was able to contribute to this small community. Fr Woods became Mary's Spiritual Director and she shared with him her longing to serve the educational and spiritual needs of the poor. Mary was aware of the growing number of children growing up in the farming areas of the ever-increasing colony of Australia. Towns were appearing in many areas where no education was available for children. Fr Woods was himself concerned about the lack of Catholic education in South Australia.

Mary obtained a teaching position at Portland and moved from Penola. Fr Woods was still Mary's Spiritual Director during this time. He soon invited Mary and her sisters, Annie and Lexie, to return to Penola with the ambition of opening a Catholic school.

An unused stable was the site to St Joseph's School, in Penola. Mary's brother John helped them to transform the stable to make it more suitable for the children of the town. Mary was now 24 years of age and she was finally able to

give her life to God in a manner she had longed for.

On the Feast of St Joseph, 19 March 1866, Mary appeared in a simple black dress. Fr Woods was appointed to secretary to the new Bishop of Adelaide, Bishop Sheil, and this was followed by an appointment as the Director of Education, Chairman of the Board and Inspector of schools in South Australia. This would take him away from Penola, however, not before he had built a new school and appointed the staff. Other women joined Mary, Annie and Lexie and on 21 November Mary and Lexie dressed as religious postulants.

Fr Woods had dreamed of Australia having its own order of nuns. He composed a set of rules to direct their lives. Bishop Sheil approved these rules.

1. An emphasis on poverty.
2. A dependence on divine providence.
3. No ownership of personal belongings.
4. The Sister would go wherever they needed.

In 1867 Mary MacKillop became the first sister and Mother Superior of the newly created order of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Mary was now 25 years old. Ten others had joined the Sisters of St Joseph by the end of 1867. Next newsletter, Mary's dedication to God and religious life continues, however, there are challenges ahead...

BRAVEHEARTS DITTO VISIT

THURSDAY, 10 AUGUST

YEARS FOUNDATION TO 3 ONLY

Ditto will be visiting St Mary's on Thursday 10 August at 11:40am. Ditto will present the Keep Safe Adventure Show for students in Foundation to Year 3. Students will learn about personal safety. This fun show helps to educate students with strategies and skills to stay safe in a range of situations. A letter was sent home to families of the F-3 students last week with further information. If you have any queries please see Mrs Hitchcock.



**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
CONFIRMATION – SUNDAY, 13 AUGUST**

The Sacramental candidates have now completed the Sacramental Program, Steps in Faith, in preparation for Confirmation and First Eucharist. They will have their final preparation day with Mrs Fraser at St Laurence's Church Stanhope this Thursday.

Please pray for David Appleton, William Appleton, Grace Barlow, Zahley Francis, James Hipwell, William Hipwell, Jackie Jones, Joel Poole, William Poole and their families as they continue their faith journey. Confirmation and First Eucharist will be celebrated by Bishop Leslie Tomlinson at St Laurence's Church, Stanhope this Sunday, 13 August at 10:00am. All are welcome to attend.

**YEAR 3/4 CAMP
BILLABONG RANCH, ECHUCA
MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY, 14 – 16 AUGUST**

Our grade 3/4 students are looking forward to their camp next week. They will enjoy outdoor experiences with trained leaders. The food menu looks delicious so they will not go hungry! Miss Rasmussen and Hayley McIntosh will accompany our students on camp and Mrs Fraser will attend the camp on Tuesday. The bus will pick our students up at 9:45am so students will come to school at normal time with their luggage. All information is included in the letter sent home.

**VICTORIAN PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE
20 AUGUST (DEADLINE)**

The end of the Reading Challenge is creeping up quickly. Students need to have their reading lists to me by 20 August. Data is not able to be entered into the online platform after this date. If your child needs another recording sheet or consent form, let me know and I can send one home with them. Just a reminder that books need to be selected off the Reading Challenge booklist which is available here:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/booklist.aspx>

*Lill Smith
Year 5/6 Classroom Teacher*



**BOOK WEEK 2017
"ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE" DRESS UP
WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST**

Students are invited to come dressed in costume and share information about their character with others on the day.

**BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST**

Note Dame College, Shepparton. 6:00 to 8:00pm served with a light supper.

**P&F MEETING
MONDAY, 28 AUGUST**

The meeting will be held at 9:00am in the Staff Room.

**INTERSCHOOL ATHLETIC SPORTS
TUESDAY, 29 AUGUST
(YEAR 3-6 STUDENTS ONLY)
ATHLETICS**

Permission forms have now been sent home and need to be completed, signed and returned by **Monday, 14 August**.

The 3-6 students will be heading to Shepparton to take part in inter-school athletics. Again, St Mary's has been rostered on the hurdles event and will be responsible for the running of that event for that day. If you are able to assist on this day with the running of the hurdles (any amount of time will be a great help!!), please let Miss Smith know. Many hands make light work!

**FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST
FRIDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER**

This year we invite our dads, grandfathers and/or special friends to our Fathers Day Breakfast. We will serve breakfast of egg and bacon rolls and tea/coffee from 7:30am.

**PIRATES – THE MUSICAL
DRESS REHEARSAL
WEDNESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER**

Rehearsals are well under way for this year's St. Mary's Production of 'Pirates – The Musical'. Rehearsal times will be advised at a later date.

**PIRATES – THE MUSICAL
THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER @ 7:00PM**

To be held in the school hall.
Our students are working towards learning their lines and the songs involved. A list of costumes required has been sent home and you are also able to view the list on our Facebook page.

INTERMISSION FOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION

The P&F will be running a stall on the night.

PUPIL FREE DAY

WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER

Staff will be participating in a Reflection day on Wednesday, 20 September. This will be a pupil free day.

SCHOOL FETE

FRIDAY, 10 NOVEMBER

4:00pm – 8:00pm

Save the date.

F/1/2 TIMETABLE & READING

The F/1/2 classes will now do library and sport on Thursday instead of Wednesday. Students should wear their sneakers on Monday and Thursday. Library books are due back each Thursday. Students can only borrow library books if they have a library bag.

Both F/1/2 classes read each morning, except for Monday due to Art and Bluearth. Thank you to our morning readers who have been reading with the children. We would love to have more morning readers to help the children with their reading. If you are able to come and hear children read, on a day that suits you, please come along at 8:55am for the first 10-20 minutes of the day. Thank you.

The following is the weekly timetable:

Monday: Art and Bluearth

Tuesday: Morning reading and Wellbeing with Maree

Wednesday: Morning reading

Thursday: Morning reading, Italian, Sport and Library

Friday: Morning reading and Music

CARITAS CLIMATE ACTION: CLIMATE JUSTICE PETITION

Thank you to everyone who signed the Climate Justice Petition. A big thank you to our Mini Vinnie Nathan who did a great job collecting signatures. By joining together as one we hope our Government will see that our communities want climate justice for all. I hope we have helped to create the largest multi-electorate petition in Australia's history and make it impossible to ignore that people of faith want climate justice.

MINI VINNIES

The Mini Vinnies have had two meetings so far and have set a full term of action. We hope to have the fundraiser for the Indian School Fr Joseph has organised with the SRC in the coming week. Milos will continue to be sold on Monday and Fridays for .50c each. The students are taking a proactive role within the school community and if they see a need are trying to do something about it.

HOT MILO

Tuesdays & Fridays

.50c each

Limit 1 per student



100 DAYS OF SCHOOL



The Foundation students celebrated their 100th day of school on Friday, 28 July. The students have been counting each day since the beginning of the year and finally they reached 100 days!



Kaley, Amber, Willow & Ellah eating cupcakes.

The students spent the day doing a lot of 100 mathematics and writing activities and had a special presentation at assembly. They had a

wonderful time celebrating with their Year Six buddies. All of the students have shown how much they have learnt and grown in their first 100 days of school. Congratulations Foundation students on a wonderful start to your schooling life!



Back row: Nevaeh F, Nevaeh S, Kaley, Willow & Amber.

Front row: Elvie, Patrick W, Kaitlyn, Mieke & JJ.

Absent: Torri & Billie.

FRIDAY NIGHT NETBALL

What better to spend a Friday night? Some St Mary's staff turned up to watch the Rushworth Div 1 and Div 2 students play netball.



Georgia, Mrs Hitchcock, Ms Ras, Zahley, Emma, Lailah, Elsie-May and Maddy.



Amber Coates

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating their birthday in the coming weeks.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

TERM 3/WEEK 2 STUDENTS



Year F/1/2 Patrick Williams & Joseph Swiss

Year 3/4 Grace Barlow

TERM 3/WEEK 3 STUDENTS

PHOTO



Year F/1/2 Kaley Knight

Year 3/4 Shantelle Batt

Year 5/6 Marcos Bain & Jess McLean

Enviro' Award Taron Wilkinson

Prin' Award Danny Miller

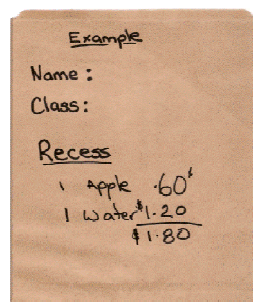


MONDAY LUNCH ORDERS

LUNCH PRICE LIST

Meat pie	\$3.50
Pastie	\$3.50
Party pie	\$1.20
Mini pizza (Sup'/Ham & P'apple)	\$3.00
Sausage roll (large)	\$3.00
Sausage roll (small)	\$0.80
Cheese & bacon roll	\$1.20
3 filling sandwich	\$3.50
3 filling roll	\$4.00
4 filling sandwich	\$4.00
4 filling roll	\$4.50
Sandwich with the lot	\$5.00
Roll with the lot	\$6.00
Sml Big M	\$2.50
Sml Nippys	\$2.50
Primas - Orng or App	\$1.50
Sauce extra 20c	

Remember: Children will need to hand in their orders, in a paper bag, early on Monday morning as a staff member from the Rushworth Bakery will arrive to collect the orders at 9.30am.



ICE COLD

**ICE, CANNABIS, ALCOHOL
THE FACTS WE ALL NEED TO KNOW**

THURSDAY 17th AUGUST

7.30pm

RUSHWORTH FOOTBALL/NETBALL
CLUB ROOMS

GUEST SPEAKERS, INFORMATION PACKS

Supper, Refreshments & Lolly Bar

For further information or to RSVP, please contact:



ph: 03 5851 8400

This FREE community event is proudly sponsored in conjunction with:



HEATHCOTE AND DISTRICT PONY CLUB

Invites you to come and join our first Rally!

Have you ever wanted to join Pony Club? Now is the perfect time!

When: Sunday 20th August 2017

Where: Heathcote Showgrounds (Gate 4)

Cost: \$15 "Come and try" for the first rally

OR \$400 membership

OR \$200 membership for a rider with no horse

Time: Gates open at 8am for a 9.30am gear check. Lunch from 12pm - 1pm *Sausage sizzle

3.30pm Finish.

OPEN TO ALL AGES

Please ensure:
You have SAFE GEAR

NO Earrings

Safe Boots

Are clean and neatly presented

Have an Australian or Euro standard helmet AS/NZS3838, EN1384 or ASTM F1163, correctly fitted.

NO Stallions, Colts or rigs permitted

STRICTLY NO DOGS.

Rallies will be on the second Sunday of the month (except for the month of January.)

Enquiries welcome: heathcotedpc@gmail.com or call Casey on 0430 244 051

Students from St Mary's, Rushworth and St Joseph's, Nagambie celebrating St Mary of the Cross MacKillop feast day.

