NEWSLETTER
Volume 15 – Issue 19
Monday 10th December, 2012

Principal: Gerard Lewis
Admin Officer: Erica Nastopoulos
Office Assistance: Dianne Pavlou
Parish Priest: Fr Barry Moran

Teachers
Year PC: Claire O’Dowd
Year 1B: Daniela Borgese
Year 2B: Claire Butson
Year 3: Therese John
Year 4T: Freda Tahtouh
Year 6: Ruth Crispin
Library: Anna Borella
Phys Ed: Chris Kidman
Support: Eleanor Colaneri
Integration: Robbie Bartlett
Year PG: Gabrielle Berends
Year 1R: Loretta Robertson
Year 2K: Lisa Knowler
Year 4R: Simon Raines
Year 5: Ben Fahey
Literacy: Paula Incretolli
Italian: Carmela Vozzo
Phys Ed: Jenny Avon
Support: Cathy Busch
Art: Jenny Young

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10th December</td>
<td>2:45am Advent Liturgy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17th December</td>
<td>End of Year Mass / Picnic / Disco 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17th December</td>
<td>Reports Sent home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>20th December</td>
<td>End of Term 4, Students Finish at 1pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>After Care is available until 6pm, booking is essential</td>
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2013
Wednesday 30th January
School Year Begins 8:55am

From the Principal’s Desk:

Grandparents/Special Friends Day
Congratulations to Loretta Robertson, Daniela Borgese, Lisa Knowler and Claire Butson who organized a Grandparents/Special Friends Day for Years 1 and 2 last Monday. There were over eighty grandparents and special friends who shared historical learning activities with the children. Thank you to all those who participated and attended this day, it was certainly a good event to conclude the Inquiry Unit for the Years 1 and 2.

Andrew Chinn Carols
Thank you to all families who attended the Carols Night on Thursday 29th November. It was great to see so many families attend the night and support the children with their carols items.

Carols Under The Sails
It was fabulous to celebrate ‘Carols Under The Sails’ with the staff and students from Christian Brothers College last Thursday night. This joint celebration certainly helped us concentrate on the true meaning of Christmas. Well Done to Ruth Crispin who prepared the School Choir for their items. Thank you to all the members of the School Choir who sang at the Carols.

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
We have received the 2012 NAPLAN results and our encouraging scores continue to show that St Mary's students perform better than State and National results. The staff will continue to explore how we can continue to provide Quality Contemporary Learning opportunities for the children at St Mary's.
**Year 6 Graduation Mass**

Next Monday we will celebrate the Year 6 Graduation Mass at 6.00pm in the Church. This will be a great opportunity for the whole school to celebrate the Year 6 Graduation. All children who attend the Mass are invited to the Disco organized by the Parents and Friends Committee after Mass in the Berchmans Centre. All parents are invited to partake in a picnic in the Junior School playground. It is anticipated that the night will conclude by 8:45 pm.

The Year 6 Graduation Dinner for parents and children will be held this Wednesday 12th December commencing at 7.00pm.

**2013 Classes**

I am happy to announce the following teachers, classes and structures for 2013:

- **Prep B**  Gabrielle Berends
- **Prep K**  Lisa Knowler
- **Year 1B**  Daniela Borgese
- **Year 1F**  Ben Fahey
- **Year 2C**  Matt Callery
- **Year 2O**  Claire O'Dowd
- **Year 3I**  Therese John
- **Year 3R**  Simon Raines
- **Year 4**  Chris Todd
- **Year 5R**  Loretta Robertson
- **Year 5T**  Freda Tahtouh
- **Year 6**  Ruth Crispin

- **Administration Officer (Mon -Thurs)**  Erica Nastopoulos
- **Administration Support (Thurs - Fri)**  Dianne Pavlou
- **Reading Recovery**  Paula Incretolli
- **Library**  Anna Borella
- **Library Support (Tues - Wed)**  Dianne Pavlou
- **Italian**  Carmel Vozzo
- **Physical Education (P-2)**  Jenny Avon
- **Physical Education (3-6)**  Christine Kidman
- **Performing Arts (Semester One)**  Ruth Crispin
- **Visual Arts (Semester Two)**  Jenny Young
- **Teacher Support**  Robbie Bartlett
- **Piano**  Scott Waterson
- **Guitar (Thurs)**  Tom Turner
- **Replacement Teachers -**  Eleanor Colaneri (3 days)
  Cathy Busch (2 days)
  Rosemary Jeunet (1 day)

We welcome Matt Callery to Year 2 next year and hope that he has a fabulous year. We welcome back Chris Todd who has been on leave over the last two years and Rosemary Jeunet who has been on Maternity Leave. Unfortunately Claire Butson who has been teaching at St Mary's for the last year has decided to move back to New Zealand. The whole parish school community will certainly miss Claire.

To conclude the school year, there will be an extra newsletter next Thursday 20 December.

I hope you have an enjoyable week.

*Gerard Lewis*
*Principal*

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**END OF YEAR EVENT**

**Monday 17th December**  End of School Year Mass

Our whole school celebration of the Year 6 Graduation Mass commencing at 6.00 pm, all students must attend. This will be followed by a Disco/Picnic.
**STUDENT BREAK-UP**

**Thursday 20th December**  
1pm

Aftercare will be available from 1pm to 6pm, please do book your child in.

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**ST MARY’S X FACTOR**

We are almost ready for the Grand Final. Congratulations to all the children for their effort and work in preparing their individual or group item. It was wonderful to see the children's courage and showmanship. The Grand Final will be a school event for the children and staff. I’m sure you all have some idea of the level of skill and talent through what you have seen at home. Thank you for your support. The children have been delighted by the skill and talent of their peers.

*Therese John - Student Wellbeing*

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**ITALIAN NEWS**

Dear Parents,

On Thursday 13th December at 3.10pm in the Berchmans Centre, a group of Grade 4 children will be presenting the Strega Nona play in Italian. This group of children has been working hard during this semester in preparation for the play. We, therefore, invite you and your family to the school on 13th December to watch and enjoy the performance. The children would appreciate your support and encouragement.

Looking forward to seeing you. Mrs.Vozzo

*Carissimi Genitori,*


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**LITERACY NEWS**

It’s that time of the year to celebrate our wonderful results in Literacy and reflect on the improvements made by all the students at St. Mary’s. We would not be able to achieve such successes without the support of Parent Helpers in the classrooms. Literacy programs, especially in the junior years, would not be able to run so smoothly if not for the time and commitment given by parents/carers. On behalf of the school I extend a big thank you to you all and hope to see you, and hopefully some new recruits, next year when we do it all over again. I hope you have enjoyed the opportunity to work in classrooms assisting students and teachers in their literacy programs.

I would also like to acknowledge and praise all the students who entered Wordmania. I hope the children enjoyed being part of that Australia wide competition. Thank you for taking the time to register your child. Some of the feedback I got was very positive.

Our Home Reading Program will finish on Wednesday 12th December so could all books be returned to school the following day – Thursday 13th December. Thank you for hearing your children read every night, for reading to them and for reading with them. I strongly encourage your children to continue reading over the Summer holidays and engage in activities which have a beneficial impact on learning. Remember to always make reading a happy time! I also would encourage your children to write over the holidays. A holiday journal is a great way to keep those wonderful experiences and memories alive for years to come. Most importantly have a good rest and enjoy the relaxing activities of Summer. Happy Holidays to everyone and Thank you!

*Paula Incretolli - Literacy Leader/Reading Recovery Teacher.*

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**LOST PROPERTY**

Please check the basket for any lost items of clothing by Friday 14th December.

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**HOLIDAY PROGRAMS**

School holiday programs are available from the school office foyer.

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**ST MARY’S PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION TIMETABLE**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24th Dec</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Mass for children &amp; elderly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30pm</td>
<td>Christmas Carols</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00am</td>
<td>Midnight Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 25th Dec</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Christmas Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Christmas Mass</td>
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*No Evening Mass on Christmas Day*
Graduation Mass and Disco

Monday 17th December
6.00pm at St Mary’s Church for Year 6 Graduation Mass
Followed by a Disco and Picnic

On Monday 17th December at 6.00pm there will be a Year 6 Graduation Mass which will be held in the Church. Please come along to this special night where we celebrate the student’s time at St. Mary’s and wish them well on their new journey. Following the Mass all the children will be invited to finish the school year off with a Disco in the Berchmans Centre, while the parents are welcomed to have a picnic on the top court yard. We will also be drawing the Christmas Raffle at some stage this evening; there are in excess of 40 prizes, some of which are displayed in the office foyer. So get your tickets from the office if you haven’t already bought them. There is also a surprise Christmas gift for all the children from the Parents and Friends Committee, which will be given to the children after the disco.

This is a really lovely way to say goodbye to the Year 6 Class of 2012 and to commemorate a fantastic year, so come along and celebrate with them.

Parent & Friends Committee

CAROLS CONCERT
Extend OSHC at St Mary's - Primary School

A message from the Team Leader:

“We have been busy making calendars for 2013. The children have also enjoyed decorating the Christmas tree and making crazy glasses in craft. We also have a beautiful beach mural display. Outside the children have been playing cricket and their favourite Ninja game. I’d like to take this opportunity also to wish all families a very happy Christmas and safe summer holiday.” - Debbie

What's on this week ...

Monday 10 December: Christmas decorations
Tuesday 11 December: Baking cupcakes
Wednesday 12 December: Making Christmas wrap
Thursday 13 December: Making Christmas cards
Friday 14 December: Making Christmas bags

End of Term 4 Early Release - Book now for After School Care

Please note After School Care WILL be available on the last day of Term 4, Thursday 20 December from 1:00pm. Book now for this Early Release session by contacting our office on 1300 366 437. This will be charged as a separate session to the regular After School Care session, so parents have the option to book their child(ren) in for the Early Release session ONLY, or both the Early Release session and regular After School Care session.

If you would like to know what your out of pocket expense will be please contact our Head Office on 1300 366 437.

Celebrate Christmas with Gilbert!

We’re very excited to announce that next week Gilbert the Gecko will be visiting After School Care!
When: Tuesday 11 December
Time: 4:00pm

Gilbert is very excited to share his exciting Christmas card activity and will be giving out prizes too! Come along and hang out with Gilbert! Hope to see you there!
In Term Four, our Inquiry unit is called Curiosity. We have learnt lots of scientific processes and completed lots of experiments.

We have been learning about living things. We learnt about the stages of a plant and a tree, which are a seed, a seedling, a sapling, a young tree, a mature tree and finally, an old tree. We found examples of these in our school then created our own timeline.

Another thing we tried was planting a bean. We planted it in a cup and wrote the procedure for it. Most of our first beans... well... to put it plainly... they died :(
So we planted them a second time, then we planted them a third time. Those beans GREW AND GREW!
We recorded their progress in a Bean Diary by writing notes, drawing a diagram and measuring growth in millimetres.

We also learnt about the water cycle. We learnt about the five stages, evaporation (where the water goes up into the clouds), condensation (where the water collects and forms clouds), precipitation (where the water falls back to earth), transpiration (where the leaves sweat out water) and collection (where the water collects in rivers, lakes and oceans).

So to better understand the complex water cycle, we conducted a few cool experiments.

We made a model of the water cycle with mountains and lakes, we put water in a cup and watched it evaporate over time, we collected a leaf from outside, put it in a bag and watched it transpire (but it didn’t work), and we put ice in plastic cups in certain places and observed how ice melts in 10 minutes.

But we’re not done yet! Next we’ll be learning about space. And we have a few simple wonderings, like:

- I wonder how big the universe actually is.
- I wonder how many planets there are in the universe
- I wonder how the planets rotate around the sun.
- I wonder how many stars there are
- I wonder how the universe was created... hmm, maybe we’ll leave that for another year (says Miss Tahtouh!)
St Mary’s Parish
208 Dandenong Road, East St Kilda
Tel: 9510 7744 Fax 9510 5607
email: stmarys_estk@optusnet.com.au
Website: http://home.vicnet.net.au/~stmarys/

Times of Services:
Sunday — Mass 9.00am, 10.30am, 5.30pm
Weekdays — Mass or Morning Prayer - 9.15am
Saturday — Mass or Morning Prayer - 8.30am
Reconciliation: Saturday - following Prayer or Mass
Adoration of the Lord — Sacred Heart Chapel every Wednesday from 9.45am

Diary
Cuppa in Pottery room following 9.00 am Sunday Mass
Thursday 7.00pm — Legion of Mary.
Second Tuesday of Month 7.30 - 9.00pm – St Vincent De Paul Society - Currently to be in Pottery Room
Pastoral Worker — Bernadette Milne — Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. As part of her duties
Bernadette co-ordinates Communion Services for Central Park, Villa O’Neill & Bupa Nursing Homes.

9 December 2012

Feast days
8 Dec Sat/Sun The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
13 Dec Thur. St Lucy
14 Dec Fri. St John of the Cross

Next Sunday Dec 16th 3rd Sunday in Advent
Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

Readings
9:00am Pat O'Shannessey
10:30am Pia Casalaz
5:30pm Andrew Higgins

9.00am Sue O’Kane
10:30am Carol Tomic
5:30pm Carmen Kanus

Ministers assisting with Communion

Volunteer

Welcome Ministry
Kath Cassar
Bernadette Roberts

Volunteer
Anthony Thumigier

Melbourne Overseas Missions Appeal - All Masses Today — Envelopes if you want to contribute later or mail direct.
Magazine... please take one. Since its foundation in 1969, Melbourne parishioners have supported our own mission fund to help developing nations... Archbishop Hart commends the fund to your continuing support.

Choir practice on Tuesday 11 December 2012 at 7pm. All are welcome.

Invitation Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
362 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Advent Reflection Wednesdays 12.30pm-1.00pm
RSVP MMHC 9926 9300

UPFRONT Nov-Dec Edition available free at Eastern Exit De La Salle Brothers - 9795 6412
featured news from Papua New Guinea — work includes Youth Centre at Mt Hagen

Xavier College Scholarships— Students entering Yrs 7,9 and 11 in 2014. The closing date for applications 8 Feb 2013
www.xavier.vic.edu.au/scholarships or contact Mrs Di Ogders 9854 5307

Parish Update- News of the Archdiocese of Melb.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Events
January 18 7.30 — Youth, National conference 14-18 January Full Registration $150 pp includes evening rallies for all.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival 4000 young Catholics from year 9 to 25 year old will gather in Melbourne

Wanted to Buy: SVDP Member seeks to purchase small reliable car (Auto Transmission) Price $2000-3000
Tel: 9510 2222
Second Sunday of Advent (Yr C)

First Reading
Baruch 5:1-9
Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head; since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 125
R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we are glad.
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears carrying seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

Second Reading
Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11
Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation
Lk 3:4, 6
Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel
Luke 3:1-6
In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiafas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:
A voice cries in the wilderness;
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Your are warmly invited to the film launch of

*A Century of Lunacy*

*Memories of Melbourne’s Luna Park*

6.45pm for 7.00pm start,
Monday 21 January 2013
St Kilda Town Hall Auditorium,
Corner Carlisle Street and Brighton Road (portico entrance)

2012-2013 is the centenary year of Luna Park, an icon of special significance in the hearts, minds and memories of generations of Melbournians. The City of Port Phillip provided a grant to artists Joe and Meyer Eidelson to create a film with active participation by the community. This one hour film, narrated by entertainer Peter Smith, records fascinating stories, illustrated with rare photos, from founders, residents, restorers, artists, campaigners and former staff about one of the world’s oldest amusement parks.

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution and support of Luna Park, Melbourne to the project.

RSVP 14 Jan 2013 via walking@ portphillip.vic.gov.au or message on (03) 92096522. Light refreshments provided.

*This project has been assisted by the City of Port Phillip through the Cultural Development Fund*