NEWSLETTER
Volume 17 – Issue 1
Monday 1st September, 2014

Principal: Gerard Lewis
Admin Officer: Erica Nastopoulos
Office Assistance: Robbie Bartlett

Parish Priest: Fr Barry Moran

Teachers
Year PB: Gabrielle Berends
Year 1J: Therese John
Year 2C: Matt Callery
Year 3F: Ben Fahey
Year 4M: Maureen McDonald
Year 5T: Freda Tahtouh
Year 6M: Samantha Malin
Library: Anna Borella
Phys Ed (Junior): Chris Kidman
Support: Eleanor Colaneri (Years 3F & 20)
Number Intervention: Anna Side
Library Tech: Dianne Pavlou

From the Principal’s Desk:

Years 3 & 4 Parish Mass
Thankyou to all the families who attended yesterday’s Year 3 and 4 Mass at 10.30am. It was great to see so many of you there. Thank you also to Claire O’Dowd, Lisa McCarthy, Donna Martin and Bernadette Milne who organised the Mass and to Ben Fahey, Simon Raines, Maureen McDonald, Stephanie Schultz and Eleanor Colaneri who gave up their Sunday morning and attended the Mass.

Church Fire
Unfortunately on Friday morning 22nd August someone set fire to the Parish Presbytery and Church. Luckily both fires were contained; however there is more damage to the Church. In the next few weeks access to the Church through the electronic doors will be restricted.

Years 3 & 4 Camp
Congratulations to all the children in Years 3 & 4 who attended the Youth, Sport and Recreation Camp at Anglesea. The behaviour of the children was outstanding. The children had a lot of fun and participated in many interesting outdoor activities. Thankyou to Ben Fahey, and Ruth Crispin who co-ordinated the camp and to Maureen McDonald, Stephanie Schultz, Catherine Le Hunt, Eleanor Colaneri, Matt Callery, Simon Raines and Pat O’Mahoney who supervised the children for the whole three days of the camp. It was great to see so many smiling faces during the three days.

Parish Hall
You may have noticed yesterday that Event Affairs the occupiers of the Parish Hall conducted a Garage Sale to sell most of their stock. This is allowing them to move out of the hall by this Saturday 6th September. The school will then take occupancy of the building from the following Monday. We will not be using the hall immediately as a safety inspection will need to be carried out on the premises in the foreseeable future.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2nd September</td>
<td>Eucharist Family Preparation Night 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5th September</td>
<td>Father’s Day Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>17th September</td>
<td>St Mary's School Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th September</td>
<td>Term 3 Concludes at 1pm</td>
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<td>After Care is available until 6pm, booking is essential</td>
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<td>Term 4 commences</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>6th October</td>
<td>School Begins 8:55am</td>
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**Inter School Athletics Carnival**

Congratulations to the children who participated in the Holt Athletics Carnival last Thursday. Unfortunately there were changes to the rules this year which meant that there were limitations placed on the number of children who could participate from each school. Therefore some children who would normally have represented the school missed out in participating last Thursday. Well done to all our participants as we finished equal second.

**Hank Marvin Project**

In the last newsletter I announced that the Parish community decided to allow the Hank Marvin Project the use of basketball courts on Saturdays starting in October. They will use the basketball courts, adjoining car-park and school toilets for the purpose of staging a vibrant weekly pop-up street food and fresh produce market. They will explore ways in which the project will benefit the local community, charities, local and regional businesses, St Mary's Parish and school and Christian Brothers College. I have attached the two page letter that was provided to parishioners for you to read at the end of the newsletter.

**Year 5 – 6 Hoop-time**

Well done to our Year 5 and Year 6 students who participated in the Inter School Hoop-time Basketball competition recently. Congratulations to the All Star Girls who won their division and will be participating in the next stage of Hoop time.

**Parents and Friends Survey**

13% of families responded to the survey. A summary of the findings are:

- Most parents access Parents and Friends events through the newsletter which is sent out via email,
- Most parents prefer this as the best form of communication,
- Cake stalls, Mother's Day Stall, Father's Day Breakfast, Easter Egg Raffle, Trivia Night, BBQ at the school sports and children's Disco are considered to be the favoured events for the P & F.
- There is a wish for more community style events for the future.

**School Concert**

Our school concert is being held on Wednesday 17th September. Thankyou to the parents who are presently helping with the collection of materials and clothing for the costume designs. The teacher's and children really value your support during this busy time of preparation.

I hope you have an enjoyable week.

*Gerard Lewis*

*Principal*

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**SCHOOL CONCERT**

**Wednesday 17th September**

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**RETURNING IN 2014**

If you haven't returned your slip advising the school if your child is returning in 2015, please do so as soon as possible. A copy of the form is attached at the end of the newsletter.

**SCHOOL FEES**

A reminder that all school fees must be finalised as soon as possible. If you have any concerns please don't hesitate to contact Erica in the office.

**CONCERT NEWS – Wednesday 17th September**

Our school concert is fast approaching. The students have been practiseing very hard on their performances and they are all starting to look fantastic! The costumes are also starting to come together nicely as well. Any outstanding costumes need to be brought to school by the end of this week, clearly labelled with your child’s name. If you are available to help in anyway, please talk to your child's teacher.

*Ruth Crispin – Performing Arts Teacher*
In yesterday's Gospel, Jesus speaks of his Passion and reprimands Peter for his objection. Peter was expecting a Messiah that would carry out a different plan than the one Jesus had explained. Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but his life and death would show a different understanding of what it means to be the Messiah. We too have expectations of God and our own ideas about what we think God ought to be doing in our world. Like Peter we may risk limiting our image of God by thinking only in human ways. God's plan is always more than we can ever imagine. As you gather as a family, talk about what we expect God to be doing in our world and in our family life. Then read the Gospel, Matthew 16:21-27. Why do you think Peter was so upset by what Jesus was saying? Notice how Jesus reprimands Peter. Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? That is, do we sometimes get discouraged because God doesn't act in our world in the ways that we expect? Pray together that your family will remember that God is always working for the world's salvation in ways that are beyond our human imaginings. Conclude by praying together Sunday's Psalm, Psalm 63. (Source: http://www.loyolapress.com)

Thank you to the parents and children who came along to the Year 3 and 4 Parish Mass yesterday, it was lovely to celebrate as a parish community with you. The children who are receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist this year will need to attend our family faith night tomorrow (Tuesday 2nd September) in the Year 3 classroom. We will begin at 6pm.

Library Helpers
Thanks to our book coverers who keep coming and taking books to cover. You are a wonderful support to the school.

Premier's Reading Challenge
I am completing all reading lists this week. All children who have not finished the challenge will be deleted as all results need to be in by September the 5th.

Chess Club
Well done to all the chess clubbers who attend each week. They are well behaved and are really enjoying their lunch time sessions.

SUNSMART POLICY
As we are a Sunsmart School – Hats are compulsory in Term 4. Only the school hat is to be worn. These are available at Primary School Wear (Cheltenham) or at the school on Thursdays at 3:15pm – 3:30pm.

LOST PROPERTY
Please go through the basket to see if any of your child’s missing items of clothing are there. Any items not collected by this Friday will be washed and donated to the Second Hand Uniform Shop.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
Forms can be collected at the office foyer.

'TIME TO SHINE' CONCERT – SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER
The Catholic Education Office has asked all schools to promote the upcoming ‘TIME TO SHINE’ Concert will feature 300 secondary students at the Palais Theatre in St Kilda on September 13th at noon and 5pm. It is the first combined schools concert that the Catholic Education Victoria Network has undertaken, and we need to support the endeavours of our young performing artists within our Catholic Secondary Schools. It is only with our support that endeavours such as this will be successful and become ongoing. From what I have seen it will be a terrific concert and well worth taking your children to see. Below is a link to a promotional video that the CEO has released.

A video promoting the Time to Shine Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala
http://youtu.be/oLc9_ZKmLlk


Thanks for your support.
Parent & Friends Committee Update

P & F Mission Statement
Encouraging and strengthening the school community and coordinating social and fund raising events for additional educational resources for our children.

Thank You to the Year Prep Class reps Laura Bunn and Helen Wong who co-ordinated the St Mary’s Footy Day lunch orders. We had 266 pies and sausage rolls orders made for the day. All the children had a ball getting dressed in their footy gear, running through their banners and meeting AFL player Troy Chaplin from Richmond Football Club.

Congratulations to Year Prep B students who won the Banner competition. Great team work Prep B!

The Prep Footy Day Pie Day raised $97.00

Thank You to the parents/guardians who participated in our first P & F Fundraising Think Tank Workshop. Our facilitator for the evening, Celia Moriarty, did a fantastic job in working with the enthusiastic group and bringing new ideas forward.

The evening was a fruitful one with some key decisions being made as to the direction of the P & F committee moving forward into 2015. There was unanimous agreement that our P & F Event focus should be on building our community within the St Mary’s Parish. There was also strong support for a School Fete in 2016! There were many great fundraising ideas arising out of the evening and it was agreed that the new P & F Committee structure 2014 was a workable model moving into 2015.

To coordinate next year’s main P & F social and fundraising event a new group is being established - The School Wide Events Group (SWEG) which will be overseen by the P & F Management Committee. The SWEG is in the process of being formed with two parents having volunteered their time already. If you are interested in being part of creating another successful fundraiser in 2015 please contact the P & F Management Committee by Friday 19th September 2014 to volunteer your time.

Some of the results from the P & F Committee survey were also presented on the evening. Gerard will, however, release the key outcomes of the survey to all parents/guardians.

P&F Committee Partnership
Bakers Delight Balaclava
A reminder that 10% of every purchase you make at Bakers Delight Balaclava goes towards the St Mary’s P & F fundraising efforts. Don’t forget to say you are from St Mary’s next time you’re there.

Celia Moriarty – Communication Facilitator
To find out more about Celia Moriarty, our Think Tank Work Facilitator, please refer to her website www.celiamoriarty.com.

P & F Calendar of Events for Term 3: August 2014

Year 4 Father’s Day Breakfast 5th September 2014
Get into the community spirit at St Mary’s and enjoy the fun of Father’s day! It’s going to be a great morning with breakfast served at 7.30 am. While food orders are now closed, there will be a coffee van on the day as well as a juice for sale.
Year 6 Cake Stall & BBQ Friday 12th September 2014

The Year 6 Cake Stall is organised for Friday 12th September at 3.00pm. Enjoy the yummy cakes, savouries and treats prepared by the Year 6 parents/guardians that will be available to purchase on the day. The Year 6 parents will also be hosting a BBQ! Come and support the Year 6 families as they prepare a real treat for us all. The money raised goes towards the Year 6 graduation fund.

School Concert Wednesday 17th September 2014

Volunteers are still required to assist so if you haven’t put your hand up you can still do so by contacting Ruth Crispin or Lisa McCarthy. All helpers will be appreciated as we draw closer to the opening night.

2014 FUND RAISING GOAL $15,000

We reached our target 😊 The sky is our limit.....

$16,452.85

Extend OSHC at St Mary’s Primary School

Our recap

An interesting week of activities last week. Some fun science experiments as well as an influx of letters to our letterbox – some of them suggestions for activities and snacks that the group would like to see at before and aftercare so we’ve scheduled an afternoon forum to brainstorm these further.

The Extend Wonderlicious Cafe was created by Serena and friends this week, with a bright, colourful sign that we put up at afternoon tea time each day. All very posh and civilised! We christened our new drawing books this week and we've seen some gorgeous artwork. The books are a part of our drive to minimise wastage, and we look forward to some group-generated recycling and sustainability ideas being piloted throughout the term. Thanks to all the mums and dads and co who say a little hi and bye when they drop in. We love meeting everyone and we're always happy to share what's been happening with the group and with your child in particular, at any time. See you soon! - Sharn

This week’s activities:

Monday 1 September: Treasure Hunt
Wednesday 3 September: Flag day
Friday 5 September: Pompon love bugs

Have you 'liked' Extend After School Care?

Did you know we have a Facebook page filled with fantastic pictures and information from our services? Find out what your After School Care has been up to or get some great ideas of activities to do at home with the kids. You never know what you might find if you don’t look and like!

Visit: http://www.facebook.com/ExtendAfterCare and make sure to LIKE us!

Spring School Holiday Program bookings NOW OPEN at a School near you!

Monday 15 Sept to Monday 13 Oct 2014

We have heaps of jam-packed activities and incursions ranging from Arts & Crafts, Cooking, plenty of games and sports and lots of Spring activities! We are also now offering Excursions! Visit the Extend website at extend.com.au for program timetables, booking forms, and activity descriptions.

Bookings close next Friday 5 September – book now to avoid disappointment.

ONLINE BOOKINGS: extend.com.au
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437
Mon 18 August 2014

Year 5 and 6
Hoop time at MSAC

On Monday 18 August, all the Year 5 and 6 students participated in the Hoop time Basketball experience. All teams completed well, ensuring they were placed on the scoreboard as well as demonstrating fantastic sportsmanship. It was a great day for both new and experienced basketball players. There were a lot of laughs during the day, but our fantastic dedication and determination came in handy, with the All-Star girls’ team making it into the grand final. It was a close match, but St Marys played hard and won!! It ended up being a great and successful day!

By Gigi Maccagini & Chloe Williams

On Thursday 21st August, Year 5 and 6 went to CBC to celebrate Science Week. In the morning we watched the ‘snake man’. He told us about the animal’s habitat, what they eat and many other things about the reptile. There were lots of snakes, lizards, turtles and a crocodile that we could look at and touch!

In the afternoon we went back to CBC to participate in some science experiments. There was fire, bright sparks and explosions that left us all in shock! One of the Science teachers told us all about gases and different metals and how they cause reactions. We all had heaps of fun and now know a lot more about science!

By Ella Haywood
Interschool Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 28th August, students in Years 3, 4 5 and 6 completed in the Interschool athletics carnival, which was held at the Duncan McKinnon Reserve.

The sun was shining brightly and St Mary’s was cheering loudly.

It was a fantastic day; everyone had a go and demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship.

All participants from St Mary’s put in a huge effort and our school finished the day in equal second place!

There were many highlights throughout the day, some of these included Solomon from 6M recording a whopping 1.50 m jump in high jump and two of our relay teams: Age 9&10 Boys and 12&13 Girls winning their races and qualifying for the next round.

Well done to all of those who participated and a big thank you for all the parents who came along and helped.  

By Dhruv Bhatnagar
Footy Day

On Friday 29 August, St Mary’s celebrated our annual Footy Day.

It was a very enjoyable day. We kicked off the day with fans singing their team chants. Then, the one and only Troy Chaplin from Richmond FC came to visit. He talked about his remarkable AFL career, and answered questions from the Sport Captains. Next was the highlight of the day, our Banner Competition. Each class worked so hard on their banners and enjoyed running through them. All the banners were great but there could only be one winner, and this year it was the Prep B class. After recess we all competed in the ‘Tabloid Sports’ which was a competition with a series of activities to do with football from around the world. We participated in our House colours, with the Green House being the overall winners.

It was an amazing day.

By James Xydias and Noah Rotstein
Monday 18th August, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Each year at this time we commence our planning for the following school year. Enrolment patterns influence staffing, class numbers and our response to enquiries about new enrolments. Therefore we ask that you complete the form below to advise us if your child is returning in 2015 so that our planning is as accurate as possible.

Please return the form below to the school by Thursday 28th August. Thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr Gerard Lewis
Principal

(Please return by Thursday 28th August, 2014)

FAMILY NAME: __________________________

CHILD/CHILDREN’S NAMES:

______________________________________  ______

______________________________________  ______

______________________________________  ______

Please tick the appropriate box.

☐ Yes, my child/children will be returning for the year 2015

☐ No, my child/children will not be returning next year and is attending ________________

PARENT SIGNATURE: __________________________   DATE: ______
20th July 2014

Congregation Member
St Marys Parish
208 Dandenong Road
St Kilda East VIC 3183

Dear Congregation Member,

I reach out to you today, seeking your support for a concept that I am excited about, and that I hope you may find interesting as well.

It is a concept that has the support of Fr Moran, Christian Brothers College, the City of Port Phillip Council Events Department, and our local member for St Kilda East, Councillor Vanessa Huxley. We have also received support from residents of St Kilda East and surrounding suburbs, local sporting club stakeholders and members of the business community.

Our team is seeking support from St Marys Parish and St Marys School in order to gain access to the double set of basketball courts on Parish land, on an ongoing basis. We are seeking to utilise the courts, adjoining car park and the school toilets for the purpose of staging a vibrant weekly pop-up street food and fresh produce market, to be held on most Saturdays throughout the year.

We also wish to explore ways in which our project may benefit the local community, charities, local and regional businesses, St Marys Parish and School, and Christian Brothers College.

The goal is to create a vibrant and festive atmosphere that is a little different to the traditional market, as currently experienced in Melbourne. Our approach to staging the event will be innovative and will create for the first time in Melbourne’s South, a highly sought after and regular space where foodies and families can celebrate their shared passion for food and community spirit.

Operating as a street food trader and market organiser in London over the last few years, I’ve been fortunate enough to experience some of the latest street food market offerings, and wish to apply some of the lessons learned abroad, to the local environment.

As a resident of St Kilda East, I would love nothing more than to kick start this project in a location as beautiful and so well suited as the one pictured overleaf. I hope that the benefits as listed on the same page are viewed by members of this congregation as a unique opportunity worthy of support.

I hope to gain your opinion regarding this project in an effort to improve upon its overall quality and would be grateful if you were to review the attached summary in considering our proposal to the Parish.

I can be contacted via email (contact@hankmarvin.com.au) to answer any questions. I thank you for your time and for any feedback that you may provide to Fr Moran or myself.

Your sincerely,

Paul Wesolek
Hank Marvin Project
Community benefits:

- creating a thriving social hub for residents of St Kilda East and surrounding areas
- encouraging a greater understanding of food provenance by connecting customers and producers
- contributing toward the environment by helping to reduce food miles and the associated vehicle and noise pollution
- providing local residents of St Kilda and adjoining Windsor/Prahran with access to a vibrant market within walking distance, reducing unnecessary trips by car to farther away markets
- actively engaging with and encouraging local community organisations to take up complimentary stall spaces and utilise them in a manner that reinforces their training or support initiatives
- becoming a space within which small-scale cultural, sporting and social events can occur

St Marys Parish and School benefits:

- paying rent of $500 (inclusive of GST), to St Marys Parish, for each trading Saturday, representing approximately $24,000 of additional annual revenue to the Parish
- providing for a student run school project (stall fees waived); in collaboration with the Parish and/or school, helping to set up a weekly pop up business to be run by students - to supplement various aspects of the existing curriculum on food, hospitality, and business management. Derived profits may be put to good use by supporting social causes

Trader and small business benefits:

- enabling street food traders, street food truck operators, restaurants and cafes to access an alternative and regular source of income and to showcase their unique offering to the local community
- enabling local and regional farmers and producers to access an alternative, low-cost source of income, ensuring greater business viability and a better deal for local buyers