Easter Liturgy: The students commenced the Term with a liturgy to celebrate the Easter Season. Our prayer concluded with all enjoying an Easter egg.

Staff Professional Development Day: Staff attended the Small Schools Professional Development Days on Monday and Tuesday. Both days were very worthwhile for Staff’s personal development and professional work.

Thank you: Many thanks to John and Wendy Clapham for their work over the holidays to complete several maintenance jobs.

Working Bee: The annual Working Bee is to be held on Sunday, April 17th at 11.30 am. All families are encouraged to attend.

Enhancing Catholic School Culture Survey: Each family will receive an envelope with information regarding this survey. Every three years schools are asked to complete the survey to assist with the school to better understand how our Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice. The survey is on-line and needs to be completed by Friday May 13th. The survey is completed by all staff, Grade 5 & 6 students, School Advisory Council members and as many families as possible. The survey takes about 45 minutes to complete and can be done over several days. Many thanks to families who are willing to complete it.

Bringing Up Great Kids: Reminder to all families that there is still time to express your interest in attending these two sessions and a reminder to those who are attending that the sessions commence next Thursday, April 20th from 9.00am – 12.00noon in the Multi Purpose Room. The second session will be held on Thursday, April 28th. Please contact Anne Boadle by next Tuesday, April 18th if interested in attending. Contact Details: Telephone 0409 598 481. Email: Anne.Boadle@centacareballarat.org.au

Clean Up Australia: The students will participate in the Clean Up Australia program next Wednesday, April 20th in the afternoon.

Calendar: The Term Calendar will be attached to the Newsletter today.
Principal Awards: Congratulations George and Ebony on your excellent work. George for your excellent presentation of the events of Holy Week and Ebony for showing her artist flair. Apologies George on my omission from the last newsletter.

Pastoral Care Worker: Anne Boadle

Works at St. Mary’s each Thursday 8.30am – 4.30pm. Contact Details: Through the school 54971116 or by ringing directly on 0409 598 481. Email: Anne.Boadle@centacareballarat.org.au

The Bounce Back! Program.

Last term the Bounce Back! class activities focused on what helps us to get along well with others. This term we will be looking more specifically at friendship, including the things we look for in a friend, how to be a good friend, good ways to respond to problems that can occur with friendships and healthy ways to manage conflict.

Ideas from the Bounce Back Program for parents.

A key message that can be communicated to your child about friendship.

To have a good friend, you have to be a good friend. A good friend is kind, thoughtful and fair. A good friend spends time with their friend, tells them about their feelings and listens to their problems and concerns.

Guitar Lessons for 2016

Guitar lessons commence on Monday at 1.00 pm with Mrs Clark. Children who have already learnt to play chords will have their lesson on Mondays. Guitar lessons for Beginners will be taken on Wednesdays. All students should bring a guitar and plastic pocket book on the day of their lesson and take it home at the end of the day. The cost for each term, per child, is $20 to be paid at the start of term. Guitars need to be placed in the Multi-Purpose Room before school so that Mrs Clark can tune them and set up the area before the lesson.

Pie Drive

A reminder to the families below that pie orders are due back tomorrow (Friday) and the pies will be delivered next Thursday. They can be picked up from the multipurpose Room from 2.30 onwards. If unable to return forms tomorrow but wish to place an order in a later bake can you please let Angie know on 0427915288.


Parents & Friends News

PD Day Catering
A huge thank you to those families who were able to donate goods and/or assistance earlier this week. The catering went smoothly and was well received. Families who pledged donations are asked to send these in to school, in a clearly labelled envelope.

Pie Drive
Pie drive forms for families allocated the FIRST BAKE are due back tomorrow April 15 - Abbott, Bickett, R&T Clapham, Donnellon, Frank, Griffiths, Mansibang, Shiju and Slater.

St. Mary’s Book Club Movie Night, Friday April 15, 7pm.
A screening of ‘Finding Fish’ by Antwone Fisher will be held tomorrow night in the multi-purpose room. Bring along a bean bag, some drinks and nibbles and a friend or two. Even if you haven’t read the book, come along for a great night out.

Lost Key
The key to the knives draw in the tuckshop is missing. If anyone has any idea where it might be please let me know - Candece 0400 709 981. It’s a vital key and opens several equipment cupboards in the tuckshop.

Next P&F Meeting Tuesday April 19, 7.30pm. All families are invited to attend. Candece Jay President of Parents and Friends.

St. Mary’s Cross Country: The Cross Country will be held next Friday, April 22nd at the Goff Letts Oval. The running commences at 1.00pm. Offers of help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Office or Carling if able to assist.

Community Messages:

Auskick: Auskick commences on Wednesday, 4th of May at 3.45pm at the Goff Letts Oval. Registration is $80.00 for the 10 week programme and can only be done on line at www.auskick.com.au
Bags will be sent in 2-4 weeks after registration. Further details – Mark Connell 0428 581 746

Net Set Go: Net Set Go started yesterday, Wednesday 13th at 3.45pm – 4.30pm. Anyone still interested contact Jenny Mortlock or Kim Griffiths.
EVERY DAY COUNTS

In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That’s half a year of school by the end of year 6.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:
education.vic.gov.au

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minute(s) Lost</th>
<th>Time Lost per Week</th>
<th>Time Lost per Year</th>
<th>Over 12 years of schooling?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>1 hour 40 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 1 day</td>
<td>Nearly 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>2 hours 40 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 2 days</td>
<td>Nearly 10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>3 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 3 days</td>
<td>Nearly 15 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>4 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 4 days</td>
<td>Nearly 20 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 minutes</td>
<td>5 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 5 days</td>
<td>Nearly 25 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>6 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 6 days</td>
<td>Nearly 30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour 10 min</td>
<td>6 hours 30 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 7 days</td>
<td>Nearly 35 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour 20 min</td>
<td>7 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 8 days</td>
<td>Nearly 40 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour 30 min</td>
<td>8 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 9 days</td>
<td>Nearly 45 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour 40 min</td>
<td>9 hours 20 minutes</td>
<td>Nearly 10 days</td>
<td>Nearly 50 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day? That’s when every minute counts the most!