THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

New School Leaders: Congratulations to Liam McLachlan, Simon Morgan and Luke Slater our Term Three School Leaders. The new leaders will give their speech at Assembly on Friday, July 22nd.

Youth Mass: Sunday, July 24th at St. Mary’s Birchip at 10.30am
Bishop Paul Bird will be celebrating Mass along with Fr. Eugene. Joan Glen will be co-ordinating an upbeat and modern music program involving young people.
The Birchp CWL have donated funds for pizza and hot finger food for the youth to share after Mass with Mrs Kristy Knoghts and the Birchp p-12 School Hospitality students catering.
There’s lots of fun planned and everyone is very welcome. If any students would like to be involved in the liturgy or music please inform Noeline Hogan (0427922988) or Bernadette O’Donnell (0427922804)
It would be helpful if you could let us know numbers for catering purposes.
Hoping to see you there.

Parents and Friends Meeting: Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 26th at 7.45pm. At the Meeting Anne Boadle will provide a short session discussing her role and providing some material for families including ideas to support her sessions with the students. All families are invited to come along.

Choral Festival: Monday, July 25th at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.
All students will be participating and singing two songs. Students are expected to wear their Winter uniform.
Any family who require assistance with uniforms are asked to contact the Office.

High School Fete: Fete is to be held on Friday, August 5th and students will be attending. Please find attached a lunch order form for this day. Orders are to be returned by Wednesday, July 27th.
Principal Awards: Congratulations to the Grade Five and Six Class on their excellent and informative Information Reports, Daniel Spencer on his singing, Library borrowers Xavier Birch, Ollie Berry and Texas Davis and Lexis Pratt on your excellent recount.

As part of celebrating Book Week students, family members and staff are asked to provide a favourite book to share for display during Book Week. More information in the coming weeks.
The Bounce Back! Program. We have begun the BounceBack No Bullying topic by defining with the children what is bullying?

The BounceBack program describes bullying as follows: ‘Most children occasionally get teased or annoyed by other children at school. Responding to this is one of the common challenges that children have to face at school. Being bullied is more serious. Bullying is when one child, or a group, repeatedly and deliberately use negative words or hostile actions against one specific child that causes distress.’

‘Bullying can be:
- Physical (eg. hitting, pushing, or damaging personal property.)
- Verbal (eg. insults or nasty name calling.)
- Social (eg. trying to socially isolate someone by spreading lies or rumours about them, or stopping them from joining in.)
- Cyberbullying: using technology to bully someone verbally or socially or to frighten or intimidate them.’

‘It isn’t called bullying if any of these things happen once, if children have a mutual argument or fight, or if a child chooses not to spend time with another child.’

BounceBack! Parent Information. Helen McGrath & Toni Noble, 2011.

Parents & Friends News
Next P&F Meeting July 19th 7.45pm Anne Boadle will be coming to talk to us before we begin the meeting. Any parent interested is welcome to come along.

Meals On Wheels: Monday, July 25th – Friday 29th July. Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri drivers still required. A working with children card is needed to take senior students for deliveries. If you’re interested in learning the ropes, please contact Candece on 0400 709 981 and we can arrange a ride during a delivery run.

Containers from In-Service Catering There are still a few containers waiting to be picked up in the tuckshop. Thanks again to everyone who was able to donate or help.

Candece Jay
St Mary’s P&F President

Donald High School Fete Friday 5th August 2016

Donald High School will be conducting a sausage sizzle for Donald Primary School and St Mary’s School on Fete day and asks that all orders be returned and paid for by Wednesday 27th July, 2016.

Sausage Sizzle pre order.
Please complete and return to St. Mary’s Primary School with payment by Wednesday 27th July 2016.

Name ___________________________________________ Year Level ___________

1 sausage in 1 slice bread @ $2.00 number required _____ Cost __$__.____

2 sausages in 1 slice bread @ $3.00 number required _____ Cost __$__.____

Total __$__.____
Growing pulses

Have you watched a seed sprout? The second session of ‘Pulsing into Pulses’ was about ‘growing pulse seeds’. Hopefully the children will see sprouting happen through monitoring their mini-farm seed growing experiments: the juniors have sown field peas: the senior, lentils.

What’s inside a pulse seed? The senior class made a model of a lentil and the juniors of a field pea. Each had its three main parts: coat, food storage, and baby plant.

We modelled water reaching inside the seed to set the baby plant growing using the food storage before pushing out a baby root and then a sprout.

What does this look like in reality? There were examples of different stages and types to look at under magnifiers, up to seedlings growing up from the discus shaped lentil and the spotty coloured lupin seeds.

St Mary’s mini-farms each have 10 seeds in a plastic mug ‘paddocks’. Having sown in mid-winter, how will our young farmers fare in raising young plants? The children know they have to think, not just about water needs (they have a year’s supply of rain), but also light and warmth. They have high hopes for their ‘farms’, as shown by their guesses (hypotheses) about what they will look like in 4 weeks’ time. So it will be a great experience for the children to monitor their seeds and see what does happen and how quickly. They have a farm record sheet to note when any special event happens, like bursting the seed coat, sprouting a root or forming the first leaf.

The first aim of the International Year of Pulses is to know what pulses are and what is used locally – in our case what is grown in the Wimmera region. During this session the children also improved their knowledge of the word ‘pulses’ and key features of the six types commonly grown in the Wimmera.

Mrs Clark is looking forward to her return on 16th August to see how the plants have grown and discuss it with the class for the National Science Week session. The results of this will then be shared with the other schools in this project for the last session in September.

Thanks to Peaco Ltd for funding this 2016 International Year of Pulses program incursion by environmental educator Jeanie Clark, enviroed4all®.