

Saint Mary MacKillop College

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*Let us always meet each other with a smile,
because the smile is the beginning of love."*

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Week 10, Term 3

Thursday 21st September 2017

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

Welcome to the final newsletter for Term 3. What an action packed term it has been. This week is a special one for our Yr.12 students as they finish up their time at SMMC. I want to thank them all for the unique qualities they have brought to our school. We will certainly miss them and the school will be a very different place. They have developed into fine young adults who I'm sure will go on to make a great impact on the world in whatever they pursue. I thank them for the great example they have set as leaders within the school and we wish them all the very best as they prepare for the final hurdles of the HSC exams. Please keep them in your prayers. We will celebrate with the Yr.12s at their Graduation Dinner in November! The Yr.12s enjoyed being shouted breakfast at Monica's Café on Tuesday morning and were presented with a Mr Men or Little Miss Book that matched something of their personality.



Don't forget to get in touch with Anastasia Byrnes if you require any **Summer Uniform** items, including hats, which are required to be worn during Term 4.

Mrs Galvin and I braved the icy Jindera conditions last Saturday morning to man the **P&F Cake Stall**. A huge thank you to all families who were able to contribute, especially during this very busy time for you all. We managed to raise \$362 from cake sales and \$60 in raffle ticket sales.

Please note there will be **no Legion of Mary meeting** on Tuesday of the first week of Term 4 (10th October). Legion will resume on Tuesday October

17th and it will be the 200th meeting of Legion of Mary at SMMC.

Tomorrow night the Saint Vincent de Paul Conference at Holy Spirit are holding their **Annual Sleep Out** to raise money for the homeless. Last year we had three SMMC students take part. If you are able to support this cause I'm sure it would be much appreciated. Please see the attached flyer and sponsorship form and contact Liz Macdonald if you can be involved.

Now that Woolworth's **Earn & Learn** sticker program has finished for this year could we please have any stickers you may have at home brought to school tomorrow to add to our total. So far we have 65 filled sheets! If you have a partly filled out sticker sheet at home please bring it in and we can use it to make up a full sheet – and then go shopping for fun resources for our classrooms! Thank you for your support.

The **Lost Property** Box is full of items. Please check and ensure your uniform items are clearly named so we can return them quickly if they go astray.

A reminder to please get your **Family Data Base** information sheets back to the school ASAP with changes marked in red pen. Thank you for your assistance.

Tomorrow we will have **Adoration** from 11:20am – 12:45pm, then finish with Benediction. Please feel free to come and spend some valuable time with our Lord during this time. Confessions will be available also.

Tomorrow there will also be a **special Assembly** after Mass run by the Yr.12 students, so please come along if you can.

Thank you to everyone in our school community for a terrific term. I hope you have a wonderful holiday break with your families and enjoy the extra time with each other. School begins back for **students on Tuesday 10th October**. We look forward to welcoming you all back then for ready for a great term of learning.

God Bless, Luke Burton (Principal)

2017 Dates for your diary...

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes– Library Open for all students
- Wednesday lunchtimes – Martial Arts training in the Hall with Mr Williams
- Thursday Lunchtime –Secondary Reading Club with Miss Costello
- **Term 3 – Tuesday 18th July – Friday 22nd September**
- Friday 22nd September – Assembly after Mass run by Year 12s
- **Term 4 – Tuesday 10th October – Thursday 7th December**
- Thursday 12th October – P&F Meeting 7:30pm
- Saturday 14th October – combined School and Parish Working Bee (2-5pm) with BBQ Dinner
- Saturday 21st October – SMMC Annual Fete
- Saturday 4th November 6pm– Yr.12 Graduation Dinner @ Commercial Club
- Wednesdays 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th November and 6th December – Secondary Swimming 1:45 – 2:45pm
- Monday 6th November – Thursday 9th November – EXAM WEEK for Yr.7-10
- Friday 10th – Sunday 12th November – Mothers and Daughters Camp at Howman's Gap
- Monday 13th November – Friday 17th November – Work Experience for Yr.9/10 16+ Students
- Tuesday 14th November 6pm – 2018 Kinder Information Session
- Fridays 17th, 24th Nov and 1st December – 2018 Kinder Orientation 9:15am – 12:00pm
- Monday 20th November – Friday 24th November – Primary Swimming Program
- Friday 24th and Saturday 25th November – SMMC Production of Fiddler on the Roof @ St John's Jindera

Curriculum Corner – Caroline Barber



In Science the Kindergarten and Year 1/2 Class have been learning about the weather and have been involved in some exciting experiments. We made a rain gauge and measured how much rain has been falling over the week and it has been a wet Spring so far! We have also been learning about different types of clouds and learnt that there are about 100 different types of clouds. Each student made a cloud identifier sheet and we were able to go outside and work out the types of clouds we saw in the sky. We saw stratus and altostratus clouds and some students noticed at the end of class the sunshine came out and the cloud formations had changed and we could now see cumulus clouds.



LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

Human Developmental Stages: Montessori/ Cavalletti

by Dr Gerard O'Shea

PART 2

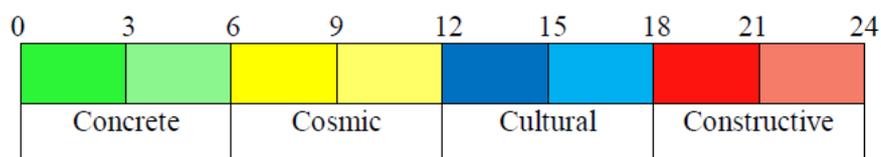
It was Maria Montessori herself who began drawing out the implications of her method for the field of Religious Education and outlined in her 1930 classic text, *The Child in the Church*. At the highest levels, Church authorities have endorsed the soundness of her educational approach; during her lifetime Montessori's work was encouraged by three Popes— Pius X, Benedict XV and Pius XII, together with the Patriarch of Venice, Angelo Ronalli who was later to become Pope John XXIII. Pope Paul VI was the first to place this recognition into an official statement in 1970:

“She [Maria Montessori] was convinced that the pedagogy inherent in the liturgy contained the same principles as her own theory of secular education, and she resolutely took the ways towards liturgical renewal which were opened by Saint Pius X. Just as the school had to be the children's home, so the church had to be the home of God's children. Maria Montessori's method of religious pedagogy is an extension of her secular pedagogy; it is naturally founded on the latter and forms its crown, by enabling the child to develop its highest potentialities to the full and to bring its whole development to fulfilment in an harmonious way.”

In 1995, Pope John Paul II drew attention to the uniquely feminine insights that allowed Montessori to perceive a reality about human nature and human learning that had escaped others. He regretted the fact that many of her insights may have been rejected on this basis. “Unfortunately, looking at the historical reality objectively, it must be noted with regret that, also on this level, women have suffered constant marginalization.” The full flowering of Montessori's ideas for religious education however, has largely been the work of two of her subsequent collaborators, Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi. To use Gobbi's words: “The content of the Christian message needs to vary according to the developmental stage of the child... the changing deep needs of the respective developmental period call for a different ‘face of God’ to be presented.”

Developmental Stages

Montessori identified four planes of development each focusing on a different aspect of human learning. These are available from many sources among the vast Montessori corpus scholarly writings. One of these that is readily available is that of Camillo Grazzini, “The Four Planes of Development”. The diagram below very briefly summarises her views.



For each of the four planes of development, there are two “sub-planes” of roughly three years each. In the first three year sub-plane, there is a new intensity, with the person deeply engaged in acquiring new aspects characteristic of the stage. In the second of the three year sub-planes, the emphasis is more on refining and integrating the data that has been acquired. It is also a time where some awareness of the characteristics of the next plane of development begin to dawn. It is noteworthy that Montessori insisted that the basic educational process is not achieved until about the age of twenty-four years.

Virtue for the Month of September - *Industriousness*

“Happy the youth who takes charge of his life in time, makes worthwhile decisions about the loyalties, purposes and ambitions that shall control him, finds his work in the world and masters it!”

Twelve Tests of Character-Harry Fosdick