Saint Mary MacKillop College
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"The truth is like a lion; you don't have to defend it. Let it loose; it will defend itself."
Saint Augustine of Hippo

Week 3, Term 3

Thursday 4th August

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

So nice to see sunshine this week! It certainly has put a ‘spring’ back in everyone’s step. As I was heading home along Dights Forest Road on Tuesday, I got the most amazing view of Falls Creek covered in snow (at least I think it was Falls Creek). It is not hard to see God in the wonderful creation he has provided to us. It also got the skiing bug up and running again too, so hopefully I can put the planks on and hit the slopes before the season is out.

THANK YOU!!
To all those who came and worked to pour the concrete slab outside the Yr.1/2 Room last Saturday. Your generosity is much appreciated and it has made a huge difference already. Thank you also for the strategic handball line put across the middle of the slab – it is being put to good use! Many thanks also to Erin Woods who kindly donated 3 very helpful pavers to help keep toes dry on the walkway to school.

Book Week – Australia! Story Country
Book Week is coming up in Week 6. Please see flyer attached outlining what is happening. Enjoy the family conversations while trying to work out the teachers’ favourite books!

Parent Information Evening – NEXT FRIDAY!
We are very privileged to have Gerard O’Shea coming to present at our Term 3 Parent Evening next Friday 12th August. Gerard will present on a Christian Approach to Human Sexuality. A flyer is attached, which you see outlining what is happening. Enjoy the family conversations while trying to work out the teachers’ favourite books!

Primary School Eisteddfod
Well done to our Yr.1-6 Students on their performance in the Eisteddfod. A Certificate has just arrived on my desk to say they achieved Second Place which is an excellent effort. Congratulations! Thank you again to Mr Flores for his time and effort in preparing them.

Debutante Photos
Any Debutantes who need to look at their photos please contact McCormack photography on 60216090 as soon as possible to make an appointment, otherwise let them know you are not interested. The photos will only be available for a limited time!

Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day
Thank you to all the students who entered our Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day Competition. I am very impressed with the students’ creative talents and picking a winning entry will not be an easy task. These entries will be a great addition to the Gala Dinner on Saturday night. We are looking forward to celebrating our school’s feast day next Monday 8th August. We will have Mass at 12:15pm, so come along if you can. At recess the SRC will be selling cupcakes for $1 each. Hot Dogs will be served for lunch for $2 each. Students can keep money on them and pay directly at the Hot Dog and Cup Cake stands.

Netball
Netball Gala day this Saturday August 6th. All teams to be at the courts at 8:30am. A note has been sent home with the girls. All spectators very welcome. We would appreciate some helpers with scoring and also encouraging during the day. Contact Clare Ryan for further information.

Bunnings Barbeque
We are very privileged to be running the Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 13th August. This is usually a very profitable fundraiser, but we need your help in order to have enough people to work in shifts and share the load. We need to be there from 9am - 4pm with 3-5 people on duty for each hour. Please email or call Fiona at the office to let her know your availability. Thank you in advance.

Saint Mary MacKillop Gala Dinner
Most importantly, we have our Gala Dinner on this Saturday evening from 6:30pm at the Commercial Club! Thank you to all those who are coming and for inviting your family and friends. The money raised will go a long way to paying for the much needed multi-sports court. There are 17 spare seats, so if you know of anyone you could invite along, get them on board and let Fiona know so she can allocate them to a table. See you there for a fun night.

Enjoy the Vitamin D!

God Bless

Luke Burton (Principal)
Dates for your diary…

- Saturday 6th August – Saint Mary MacKillop Gala Dinner at Commercial Club 6:30pm for 7pm
- Thursday 11th August – BIPSA Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park
- Friday 12th August 7:30pm – Parent Evening with Dr Gerard O’Shea. “Talking with your children about human love and sexuality”.
- Saturday 13th August – Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser for SMMC, 9am – 4pm. Volunteers needed please.
- Monday 15th August – Feast of the Assumption – 12:15pm Mass
- Tuesday 16th August – Level 2 High School Awards Morning Tea with parents 11:00am.
- Tuesday 16th August – School Concert Auditions at lunchtime with Miss MacLean and Mrs Horsfall.
- Friday 19th August – School Assembly after 9:20am Mass
- Monday 22nd – Friday 26th August – BOOK WEEK
- Wednesday 24th August – Primary School Book Week Parade 11:20am.
- Friday 2nd September 7:00pm – School Concert
- Friday 23rd September – Assembly after 9:20am Mass and Term Three finishes
- Monday 10th October – Term Four begins for students
- Saturday 22nd October – SMMC Fete
- Tuesday 24th October 7:30pm– Parent Evening with Simon Carrington from Parousia Media. “Keeping the Communication Lines Open with our Children”.
- Friday 11th November – Sunday 13th November - Father/Son Camp, Harrietville
- Thursday 8th December – Term Four finishes

~ CURRICULUM CORNER ~ Mr Mathieu Couture

The Year 11 Modern History class completed their historical investigations on a topic of their choosing. They each presented their findings on the Holocaust, the Cuban Missile Crisis, 9/11, the Russian Revolutions, the Romanovs and Hiroshima/Nagasaki. They showed great ability in communicating their information in an entertaining way to their audience. All of their research paid off with some amazing pieces of evidence!
Mother Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Mother Mary of the Cross celebrates her feast day next Monday. She is the saint for our school and also the saint for Australia. She who faithfully carried her earthly cross is now glorified in heaven. “I have glorified Thee on earth, I have finished my work Thou gavest me to do; and now glorify Thou Me, O Father, with Thyself.” (John 17,4)

Mary was born in Fitzroy, Melbourne on 15th January 1842 and was the oldest of eight children. Her father was a well-educated man who had studied in the seminary before leaving to marry. Mary’s father educated her and by the age of sixteen she had become the main provider for the family. She was employed first as a governess, later as a shop assistant and eventually as a school teacher. Her crosses were evident in her childhood years. She had much sorrow as a child as her grandfather died in a drowning accident and soon after this, her baby brother also died. At one stage she was very homesick whilst staying at her Aunt’s house in Melbourne. It is believed the Virgin Mother appeared to her as later in life she wrote a prayer: “Ah, my Mother, think of the day when I knelt as but a child to ask you to be my mother and to let me love no other mother but you, and I remember your gentle whisper when you said you had marked me as your child since my birth.....”

Mary had a tender heart for those who suffered hardship, she herself having experienced this in family life herself. She was sympathetic to the plight of many families living in poverty as a result of the gold rush. She worked with Father Woods to establish a teaching order of nuns to work in Australian conditions which were very different from European conditions. It is thought that the first school, opened in January 1866, was in a stable converted into a schoolhouse. Only those who could afford to were expected to pay fees. This was the beginning of the Josephite mission to provide equal education for all. The schools were run on providence.

The cross was also evident in her religious life. She wrote; “The Cross is my portion -it is also my sweet rest and support. I could not be happy without the cross... with the cross I am happy, without it I would be lost.” She had many crosses including excommunication and the disbandment of her order. There were allegations that she was an alcoholic and an embezzler. Her life was marked with crosses. Despite these she produced much fruit. The Josephites educated generations of young Catholics from one end of Australia to the other.

Mary exemplifies the very suffering and trials of life that test our character to the limits and define who we are as people. Let us pray that, like Mary MacKillop, we too will give glory to God by the heroic living out of our daily life.

VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST - Justice

“Justice is the rectitude of our love that we owe all men” (Heart of Virtue p134)
Children’s Book Week 2016

This year Children’s Book Week is the week from 20th August to 26th August 2016.

The Library is holding two competitions and a dress-up parade to celebrate Children’s Book Week.

The theme for this year is “Australia! Story Country”.

Competition 1
Students can enter the colouring-in poster competition. The poster competition closes on Friday August 19th 2016. Posters can be submitted to Mrs Mott-Pekolj. There is no cost for entry and there will be prizes for the best poster in each stage. Students have been working on these during library lessons. No late entries will be accepted.

Competition 2
Our second competition involves families unscrambling each staff member’s favourite book. Please no cheating by using a computer. There is no cost for entry to this competition and there will prizes. See the back of this sheet for the entry form. This competition also closes on Friday August 19th 2016. No late entries will be accepted.

Book Week Parade
On Wednesday 24th August the school will have a Book Week Dress Up Parade. Primary students are able to dress up as a book character depicting this year’s theme or a character from a book by an Australian author.

Remember all costumes must meet the guidelines of the school’s dress policy and modesty is encouraged in all costumes. Students will wear their sport uniform to school and get changed into their costume at recess ready for the parade immediately after recess at approximately 11:30am. After the parade, students will need to change back into uniform ready for sport. Parents are invited to be part of the audience for this event.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Family Name</th>
<th>The number after the letters is the number of words in the book title.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Miss Maclean</td>
<td>ABDEEFGGHIILNNRTTY (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Tingle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Flores</td>
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<td>Mr Burton</td>
<td>BEEFHHIKOOT (3)</td>
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<td>Mrs Josephs</td>
<td>ABBDEEIGHIIORRTTT (3)</td>
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<td>Mr Williams</td>
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<td>ADEEFGHHHIKLNOORSTTTU (6)</td>
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