

## Saint Mary MacKillop College

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*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; and may perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen*

**Week 3, Term 4**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

It has been another busy week with All Saints Day yesterday and All Souls Day today. We celebrated All Saints Day with a parade of our 'little saints', Mass and then a beautiful Paella lunch thanks to Mr Williams and his able helpers. This morning after Mass we visited the cemetery for prayers and blessing of the graves as we remember all the holy souls. We remember especially today Mrs McGrath's mother and Miss McCormack's aunty who both died recently.

Thank you to all the students for their efforts in acknowledging the staff for World Teachers' Day last Friday. We were serenaded with a song 'Happy Teachers Day' (sung to the tune of Happy Birthday) and presented with a hamper of goodies with essential teaching items (such as lifesavers) with very clever puns attached to justify their inclusion. Thanks to our school captains Bernadette O'Brien and Tom Van Der Horst for their leadership of this occasion.

I kindly ask that children do not enter the school over the weekend or during the holiday periods. We have had a number of issues with broken plants in the garden and objects being moved around. Whilst we want our school to be very welcoming, I also ask that boundaries are adhered to please. I thank you for your support on this front. Students have also been reminded that when riding to school they are to approach on the opposite side of the road and walk their bikes across the crossing all the way into school. It is great to see so many students riding and we are exploring bike rack options to be installed within the school grounds to assist with storing their bikes safely during the day. A final reminder that students should not be arriving at school before 8:50am. We have a teacher on duty from this time.

Primary intensive swimming lessons will take place in Week 6. Please fill in and return the permission note with necessary money as soon as you can. If you require a new note please contact the office. Thank you!

The year 12s enjoyed a wonderful retreat day on Monday to help them prepare for their HSC year. They began the day at Holy Spirit Parish for a morning recollection before returning to school for some talks from staff members on Leadership and Study Skills. A big thank you to the staff for their organisation and to Fr Murphy for his generosity in leading the spiritual formation aspect. It is great to see these young people setting off on the right foot for their HSC year.

Yr. 7-10 exams will begin in Week 5, from Monday the **12<sup>th</sup> of November to Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November**. These exams will be held in the hall. We encourage the students to study hard over the next week in preparation. Success comes through effort!

Please mark next **Wednesday 7th November 7:30pm** on your calendars for this term's **Parent Evening**. Bernard Toutounji from *Aid to the Church in Need* will be visiting SMMC throughout the day to talk to the students about their faith and the Christian Faith throughout the world before presenting to parents in the evening. These evenings are organised to assist you in your role as first educators of your children and I hope you can make every effort to be there. If you know of anyone else in the wider community who would like to attend they are also more than welcome.

A big thank you to all who donated goods, helped out before and after and came along to support our annual fete last Saturday. The day was a great success with wonderful weather and a large turnout. We managed to raise a total of \$9,916.50 on the day. Raffle Winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> – Matt Darlow and 2<sup>nd</sup> – Kite Family. Prize for most raffle tickets sold went to the O'Brien family.

Well done to the eight Yr.5/6 students who attended the Maths Relay held at Holy Spirit School Lavington yesterday. They represented our school with distinction and enjoyed the challenge of working with students from other schools to solve challenging mathematical problems. Thank you to Mrs Patino for her organisation of this opportunity and to Mrs Karen Murphy for helping with transport.

This Saturday 3rd November from 2-5pm a group of girls from Leaders Now are organising a Fashion Parade for ladies and teens in the SMMC Hall. Afternoon tea will be provided. Cost is \$10 per ticket. All profits will be used to fund leaders now initiatives supporting refugees.

Anyone coming to the Yr.12 Graduation on November 10<sup>th</sup> must let the office know by this Monday. Tickets are \$45 and it is open to anyone 16 and older.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

God bless,

Luke Burton (Principal)

## 2018 Dates for your diary...

### Term 4 – Monday 15th October – Thursday 6th December (8 Weeks)

- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – School visit and then Parent Evening with Bernard Toutounji from Aid to the Church in Need.
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 6pm - Yr.12 Graduation
- November 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – Exam Week for Yr.7-10
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Whole School Assembly after Mass
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Primary Swimming Intensive at Jindera Pool
- 2019 Kinder Orientation Days – Fridays 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> November. 9:15 – 12:00.
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 7pm – P&F AGM
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Cardinal Newman Bookshop visit to SMMC
- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December – P&F Bunnings BBQ
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 7pm – SMMC Presentation Evening (outdoors if weather is kind)

## Curriculum Corner – Mrs Magdalene Kaur



The year 7 students are currently studying a Module on Comedy. In this module, we explore the elements of comedy and their assessment task is to compose a comic script employing the techniques such as

- pun (word play)
- misunderstandings
- incongruity
- surprise
- exaggeration.

The final task requires the students to perform their skits. Below is an example of the use of pun from one of the original scripts:

**Student:** “Why Miss, your eyes are crossed!”

**Teacher:** “Oooh, it’s because I can’t control my pupils!”





## LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

### November- A Month for Saints and Sinners.

November is the month designated to the holy souls. This brings to mind the nature of the Church which consists of the Church militant- those of us on earth fighting the daily battles of good versus evil. The Church suffering- those souls suffering in purgatory. Also, it is a time to reflect on and rejoice in the Church triumphant - the saints in Heaven.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassatti is a classic example of the triumph of the Church. A most unlikely individual to become a saint. He was an Italian man born in 1901. His father was a wealthy agnostic who had a comfortable life, working at times as a foreign diplomat. His mother was a lukewarm Catholic who, as he said of her, “never went to Communion or was seen to kneel and say a prayer.” Not the classic catholic home that many of the saints came from. He also had to deal with the new social climate within his country as a youth of atheistic fascism. God, in his infinite wisdom raises up saints as beacons to dispel the darkness. Sainthood is for everyone and we in our hearts know that is what we were made for.

What made him a saint? It was truly God's grace and his co-operation with that grace in his life. As a child, he was tender hearted, giving away his shoes and socks to a beggar and child at the door before his mother could stop him. When he graduated in mining engineering his father wanted to give him a car, but Pier just wanted the money, which, unknown to his father, he gave away to the poor. He saw his service of the poor as a return of the favour he received in Jesus coming to him, a poor sinner, in Holy Communion each day. He was actively involved and passionate about social justice, joining a Saint Vincent de Paul society in 1918 which was his avenue to serve the poor. He was obedient to his parents, not marrying a girl whom he loved, as it displeased them. His life, like all the saints, was marked with the pursuit of virtue. He became a third order Dominican in 1922, taking the name of a Dominican martyr. He said of him, “May I imitate him in the struggle and in virtue.”

His life was full of joy. His family could not understand his joy. He had an unsuppressed joy that comes only from a grace filled soul. Even though he died of poliomyelitis, which paralysed him totally, he hid his suffering until the very end. He cared so much for others that in his final days he fetched the doctor for his dying Grandmother. He died only days later in 1925, aged 25. When he died, a steady procession of the poor and destitute came to pay their last respects. The procession of the people to honour a saint. Following his death his family converted to fully living their faith and worked towards the cause for his canonisation.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassatti was beatified by John Paul II in 1992. JP II said that, “By his example he proclaims that a life lived in Christ’s Spirit, the spirit of the Beatitudes, is blessed....”

(facts and quotes taken from “*Faces of Holiness*” by Ann Ball)

Virtue for the month of November - **Reverence**

“*The soul of the Christian religion is reverence*” Goethe