

Saint Mary MacKillop College
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"Servite Domino in laetitia!"

(Serve the Lord joyfully!)

St John Bosco

Week 5, Term 1

Friday 3rd March 2017

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

We have now entered the Lenten period and we remember the three aspects of lent that help us to draw ever closer to God – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. On Wednesday we received a cross of ashes on our forehead accompanied by the words "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel". The challenge has been put before us.

Shrove Tuesday Breakfast

Thank you to Mr Williams and the SRC for running such an efficient breakfast operation on Tuesday. It was a great morning and the smiles on the faces show they certainly enjoyed it.

Phone Contact

When calling the school, please use the main number which is **02 6045 9422**. This line is set up to then 'hunt' to our other line when occupied, but it doesn't work the other way around. Thank you!

RAS Primary and BISSA Swimming

Congratulations to the students who have been selected to swim in Wagga at the next level of competition next week. We wish them all the best in their event. I know they will do SMMC proud. Miss Julie McCormack will travel with the Primary Team to Wagga next Wednesday and Mr Mathieu Couture will accompany the secondary students on Thursday. Swim well!

Yr.7 Vaccinations

Yr.7 Vaccinations will now be held on Wednesday 22nd March at SMMC. Please ensure your paperwork is returned as soon as possible.

P&F Meeting

Thank you to those parents who were able to make it to our first P&F Meeting for the year last night. The main fundraisers for the year will be Mother's Day Raffle, Cake Stalls in Jindera x 2 and our Annual Fete. We are also planning a chocolate fundraiser (after Lent) and have been fortunate enough to secure another BBQ at Bunnings for the 20th May. Last year we came away with a profit of over \$1000, so hoping it goes well again this year. P&F Funds were committed to various areas of the school including maths resources for primary and secondary, new vacuum cleaner and tools for 7/8 TAS. Thank you to the P&F for their support of these resources for our school.

I hope you all have a terrific weekend.

God Bless,

Luke Burton (*Principal*)



Samuel Clear gave an inspiring talk to our secondary students last Friday.

Dates for your diary...

- EVERY TUESDAY 8:15 – 9:00am – Fun Maths Skills Classes with Mrs Horsfall in St Albert Room
- Tuesday lunchtimes – Chess Club with Mr Couture and Mr Galvin
- Wednesday lunchtimes – Martial Arts training with Mr Williams
- Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes – Library Open for all students
- 3pm each Friday in Lent – Stations of the Cross in the Church

- **Term 1 – Tuesday 31st January – Friday 7th April**
- Secondary Swimming Program – FINAL SWIM next Wednesday 8th March
- Wednesday 8th March – RAS Primary (formerly BIPSA) representatives swimming in Wagga
- Thursday 9th March – BISSA (Secondary) student representatives swimming in Wagga
- Wednesday 15th March – Yr.11 Biology Excursion to Wonga Wetlands
- Wednesday 22nd March – Yr.7 Vaccinations
- Saturday 20th May – SMMC P&F BBQ at Bunnings – help will be needed!
- Monday 3rd April – School Photos (Summer Uniform)
- Friday 7th April – School Assembly after Mass
- **Term 2 – Wednesday 26th April – Friday 23rd June**
- Wednesday 3rd May – SMMC Cross Country at Jindera Golf Course 11:30am – 2:00pm
- Saturday 6th May – Mother's Day Cake Stall in Jindera – baking prowess needed!
- May 9,10,11 – NAPLAN Assessments for Years 3,5,7,9.
- Thursday May 11th – P&F Meeting 7.30pm
- Friday May 12th – RAS Primary Cross Country
- Monday 15th May – SMMC Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park, Albury
- **Term 3 – Tuesday 18th July – Friday 22nd September**
- Saturday 12th August – Saint Mary MacKillop Gala Dinner
- **Term 4 – Tuesday 10th October – Thursday 7th December**
- Saturday 21st October – SMMC Annual Fete

Curriculum Corner – Miss Victoria Costello



During Term 1, the Year 10s have been studying Australian Literature. They have explored and analysed works by Banjo Paterson, Henry Lawson, Stephen McInerney, Victor Daley, Ernest Favenc, and many many more. Our main text of study is Marcus Clarke's 1874 novel, *For the Term of His Natural Life*. It is considered THE Australia novel and details the transportation of an innocent man to a penal colony in Tasmania. It is a gripping read and is one of the pioneers of a new sub-genre called Tasmanian Gothic. In the photos, you can see the Year 10s writing summaries, sketching 19th century ships, drawing up a map of Tasmania, and avidly reading the novel. We hope to create a big *For the Term of His Natural Life*-themed display for the back of the Dominic Savio room. Stay tuned..



LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

As a parent the single best thing you can do for your children is to love your spouse (their mother or father). It is easy to get so busy in day to day family life that you neglect your marriage which is the foundation of family life.

For a married person your vocation is first and foremost to love your spouse. Remember those marriage vows, “for better for worse, in good times and in bad...” etc. It is important to love your children, but you have to keep in mind that your spouse has to come first. So when you go to cook dinner tonight cook your spouse's favourite, don't worry too much about the kids, they won't starve. Even if your spouse is absent, you can still keep that marriage love alive by speaking well of them in their absence and letting the children know what he or she would expect of them.

Obviously you can't go away for romantic weekends every week. Your spousal love has to be a day by day thing. St Therese took this spousal love seriously as the bride of Christ. She did “little things with great love”. Some of the “little ways” are things like: arriving home calm and recollected; making a cup of tea or coffee; taking time to talk and listen to each other. Love is something that happens all day every day. Make sure you show some physical affection to your spouse so that the children see. The better your marriage, the happier your children.

A short cut to pleasing your spouse is to learn their “love language” as described by Gary Chapman in his book 'The Five Love Languages'. The first love language is touch - these people love a few extra cuddles. Another language is words of affirmation - these people thrive on positive and reassuring words. A third language is gifts - these people love small gifts and surprises. For another it may be acts of service - people like this love someone to help out by doing a few jobs they would like done for them. The fifth language is quality time - these people enjoy lots of eye contact and total undivided attention. Try to think about your spouse and try to find out their love language so that you are able to easily work to please them. I am sure the joy in your marriage will overflow to your children and family life.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH OF MARCH- HOPE

“..the confidence that God watches over us as a loving Father and we therefore have nothing to fear; he will help us through life's challenges and give us the means for our salvation.” J Stenson