

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury Newsletter

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Week 8, Term 3, 2020

Friday 11th September



Dates for your Diary:

Term 3

Mon 14th to Fri 18th Sept –
Yr 11 Exams

Tues 22nd Sept – Happily
Ever-After Fairy Tale
Adventure

Thurs 24th Sept – Yr 12
Breakfast

Thurs 24th Sept – Yr 12
Retreat

Fri 25th Sept – Yr 12
Graduation Mass

Fri 25th Sept – Yr 12
Secondary Assembly

Fri 25th Sept – Yr 12 and
Staff Morning Tea

Fri 25th Sept – Last Day
of Term 3

Term 4 2020

Mon 12th Oct – Students
Begin Term 4

Dear Parents,

Along with the family, I took the opportunity to watch the new movie *Fatima*, which has been available for free on YouTube this past week. Particularly striking to me was the portrayal of the sibling seers, Jacinta and Francisco Marto. When Our Lady appeared to them in 1917, they were just 7 and 8 years old, respectively. Jacinta and Francisco are less famous than their cousin, Lucia dos Santos, who lived a long life, but their portrayal in the movie squared with the holiness they exhibited in real life.

"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 18:3).

Like us, Jacinta and Francisco lived during a time of pandemic, they themselves succumbing to the Spanish Flu; Francisco on 4 April 1919 and Jacinta on 20 February 1920. They are the youngest canonised saints of the Church and the patrons of our Kindy class.

Like us, they lived at a time of enormous upheaval, offering up their sufferings for sinners. As the Congregation for the Causes of Saints wrote of them, the brother and sister saints had an "insatiable hunger for immolation".

As I write, our SMMC saints are performing at their annual concert. I hope you are enjoying the live stream! Their vibrant faith and energy for life is a constant inspiration and reminder to aging staff members like me, that if I want to enter the kingdom of heaven, I must become like them.

Warm regards,
Ian Smith
Principal



Year 11 exams

The year 11 students will be sitting their final exams this coming week. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Library Books

A friendly reminder for students to please return due or overdue books to the school Library before the end of this term. Thank you.

Lost Property

The Lost Property basket is quickly filling up with jumpers and jackets due to the warmer weather. We ask families to please check the Lost Property for any missing items as a clear-out will be done at the end of term.

Book Week

This year Book Week will take place in Term 4 from Monday 17th to Friday 23rd October. This year's theme is *"Curious Creatures, Wild Minds"*. In keeping with the theme there is a family competition where families can guess staff members favourite wild animal (Please see attached). There are also two competitions that students may enter. Primary students will be given class time for these competitions, however secondary students are welcome to enter the 'Create Your Own Curious Creature' but will need to create their 'creature' in their own time. There will be a Book Week dress up day on **Thursday 22nd October for Primary classes only** as well as story readings during lunch times. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Happily Ever-after Fairy Tale Adventure

As the term draws to an end, the Year 12 students are organising a *'Happily Ever-After Fairy Tale Adventure'* on **Tuesday 22nd September** to end the term on a high note! All students are asked to come to school on the day dressed in their finest fantastical costumes resembling a character from a fairy tale of their choice. All students who dress up will be asked to pay a **gold coin donation** towards the Year 12s fundraising efforts. There will also be fun activities run throughout the day hosted by the Year 12 students. Please look out in your inbox for further details about the day in the coming weeks.

ICAS

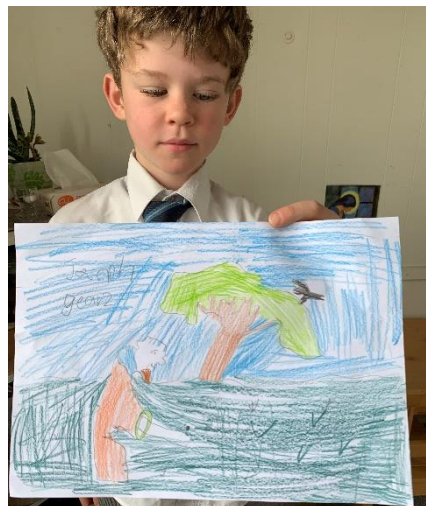
ICAS testing has now been completed. We would like to congratulate these students for their efforts and we wish them all the best.

Curriculum Corner - Mrs Angela Van Der Horst



News from the Atrium

In this blessed time of ordinary time, known in the Atrium as the growing time, the children have been focusing on the kingdom parables. God's kingdom is like a mustard seed, a precious pearl, and like leaven that keeps on growing. Children contemplate these parables through prayer and reflection in the quietness of the provided space called the Atrium a place set aside for prayer, reflection, and meditation of God's word.



Year 12 Chemistry Students have been learning about how to make Artificial Flavoring.

He is a photo of James O'Brien making Pear flavoring.





LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

Loving Until It Hurts.

On 5th of September it was the feast day of Saint Teresa of Calcutta. She was born in 1910 in Albania and after hearing the call from God initially became a Loretto nun. In 1948, following a call from Jesus, she began her missionary work among the “poorest of the poor in India.” Her order was given official Church approval in 1950 and very quickly spread to the rest of the world.

What is it that this little nun, who was working in India, can teach us? Blessed Teresa teaches us the power of love. To truly love is to love without counting the cost. For us that means giving of ourselves to others without expecting to be loved, or rewarded, in return. To do this would seem impossible except that we know that God's grace is sufficient for us. It is what we need to be able to truly love others. Blessed Teresa taught her nuns, “All we do is for Jesus”. To feed the hungry is to feed Jesus, to clean the wounds and tend to the sick, is to do this for Jesus. To care for the dying is to care for Jesus. Sometimes little can be done to alleviate suffering. At these times we can be like St John and Mary at the foot of the cross, just being with them in their suffering.

How do we put that love into practise? De Marco, in his book “The Heart of Virtue,” states that “care is the one virtue that closely resembles love closest to the heart of Jesus”. That is, when we show caring concern for others, we are showing love in action. We can show care in our family life by overcoming the obstacle of inconvenience and taking time to listen and comfort the sufferings of others. There is a great spiritual poverty in our society and people are hungry for love. This we can all give. Every day Our Lord brings people to us and we are to care for them. We have to care for their sufferings as Blessed Teresa did, knowing that in caring for them we are caring for Jesus.

“We must grow in love and to do this we must go on loving and loving and giving and giving until it hurts - the way Jesus did.” Mother Teresa from A Simple Path.



Virtue of the Month - MERCY

Parenting tips

Mercy- Caring For Those Who Suffer

*"Being all fashioned of the self-same dust,
Let us be merciful as well as just."* (HW Longfellow)

For Young children

Encourage children to look out for those who are hurt on the playground or elsewhere and help them. Sometimes just staying with someone who is feeling hurt or sensitive helps.

Encourage children to have a "spring clean" of their wardrobe and toy box. Donate these goods to those in need. Take them with you to Saint Vincent De Paul centre (Vinnies) or other charity centre.

Pray as a family for someone who is suffering. It could be someone close to you or a group of people in another part of the world such as those affected by a recent disaster.

For primary aged children

Choose one of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy and choose a way to practise this. If you choose a spiritual work of mercy, make sure you understand what type of suffering it relieves.

Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Admonish the sinner
2. Instruct the ignorant
3. Counsel the doubtful
4. Comfort the sorrowful
5. Bear wrongs patiently
6. Forgive injuries
7. Pray for the living and the dead

Corporal Works of Mercy

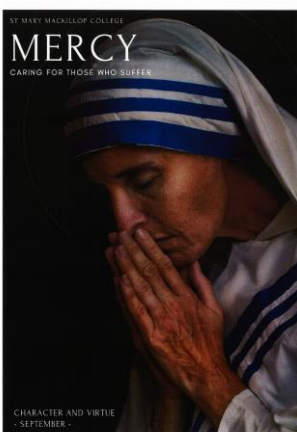
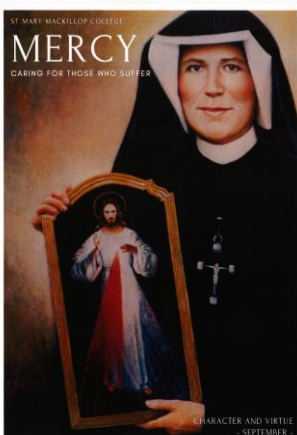
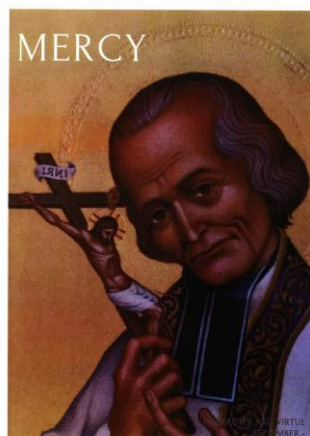
1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Visit the imprisoned
5. Shelter the homeless
6. Visit the sick
7. Bury the dead

For high schoolers

"A joy shared is a joy doubled; a sorrow shared is a sorrow divided." Encourage a caring attitude amongst your children by talking about how we can reach out to people close to us who are suffering in some way, either physically or spiritually. Encourage them to pray for these people this month.

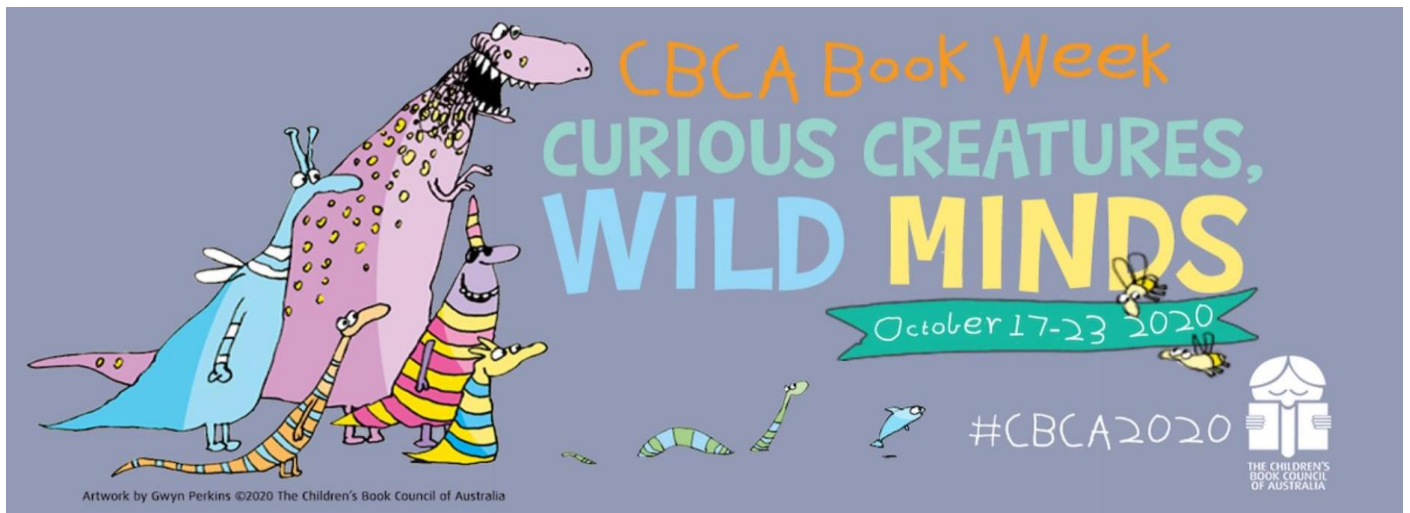
Discuss the relationships between the virtues of mercy and forgiveness. Are all acts of mercy acts of forgiveness? Are all acts of forgiveness acts of mercy? How does lack of forgiveness cause suffering? Encourage this discussion to flow into practise.

Challenge each family member to choose one spiritual and one corporal work of mercy to work on for the month of September.



Yr. 3 / 4 Father's Day Craft





This year, Children's Book Week has been moved to the week of October 17th to 23rd 2020, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The activities taking place during Book Week will be:

- A pick the staff member's favourite wild animal competition for the families to enter.
- A dress-up day on Thursday 22nd October for **Primary Only**
- A colouring competition for Kinder to year 2.
- A create your own "Curious Creature" for years 3 and up (including high school). A flyer is attached for high school students.
- Infants and Primary classes will be given class time to complete their entry for the competition.
- There will also be story readings during lunch time for the junior children.

Entries for all the competitions will close on **Wednesday 21st October**, so that winners can be announced on Thursday 22nd October.

Please remember to include your Full name and
Year level on the back.