

Saint Mary MacKillop College

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"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo. "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring

Week 9, Term 1

Friday 31st March, 2017

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

This week the Yr.12 students sat their mid-year exams. I congratulate them for their non-fuss approach as they got in and gave it their best effort. It is hard to believe they are half way through! Next week they will enjoy some extra-curricular activities in amongst their normal classes including a netball game and visit to the Jindera Nursing Home.

Turf Wars!

On Monday this week, we had over 100 square metres of turf delivered to lay around our new sports court. I want to thank the Yr.4 Boys especially who toiled hard all day with me to loosen up the topsoil and then roll out the turf. Parents of these boys should be very proud of their work ethic and willingness to lend a hand. Thank you also to the 5/6 boys and secondary boys and girls who came out later in the day and helped get us to the finish line. We have been busy watering the grass this week and hopefully it will take root and prosper. It has really finished off the Sports Court area! Thank you to the P&F for funding this project.



Thank you

To Graham McAuliffe, a friend of Mr Flores, who kindly donated lots of tennis balls to be used in our PE Programs. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Winter Uniform Orders

It is time to begin getting organised for the onset of winter. Winter Uniform is required to be worn during Terms 2 and 3, so please get your orders into Mrs Anastasia Byrnes before the end of term. An order form is included with this newsletter.

School Photos

Students, make sure you're looking your absolute best this coming Monday 3rd April for our School Photos. Please

wear full Summer uniform. If you would like to purchase any photos, please fill in the order form sent home last week and return to the office by next week.

School Reports

Yr.12 Mid-Year Reports and Yr.7-11 Interim Reports are currently being compiled by teachers and will be mailed out to families when completed. There will be no Primary Interim Reports this year. All of Primary and Yr.7-11 will receive a Semester One Report at the end of Term 2 and a Semester Two Report at the end of Term 4. As always, teachers are there to work with you, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if you want to discuss your child's progress.

Cross Country

SMMC's Cross Country will again be held at the Jindera Golf Course on Friday 28th April beginning at 11:30am. We will need volunteers to assist with checkpoints and other roles on the day.

ANZAC Day

SMMC is organising the Jindera 10.30am Service on Tuesday 25th April, the day before Term 2 starts back. Students are asked to come along and represent our school at this service and please wear full winter uniform. We will have a choir to sing the opening hymn and our National Anthem. Any parents who could be a part of the choir please let Andrew Flores know.

P&F News

The P & F are currently running two raffles: one for Mother's Day one for firewood. With last week's newsletter you received a book of 10 tickets for one of the raffles. We are asking for your support by selling as many tickets as possible. We have almost run out of books at school, so if you think you won't be able to sell them, please return ASAP as we have families who can sell them. It is important that all raffle tickets are accounted for. There will be a prize for the family who sells the most tickets! A big thank you to those who have already sold tickets and another big thank you to those who have donated prizes.

Have a great weekend.

God Bless,

Luke Burton (Principal)

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
- Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes – Library Open for all students
- Wednesday lunchtimes – Martial Arts training in the Hall with Mr Williams
- 3pm each Friday in Lent – Stations of the Cross in the Church

Term 1 – Tuesday 31st January – Friday 7th April

- Monday 3rd April – School Photos (Summer Uniform)
- Tuesday 4th April – Kinder Excursion to Jindera Pioneer Museum 9:30am – 12:00pm
- Friday 7th April – School Assembly after Mass

- Tuesday 25th April – ANZAC Day Service, Jindera Memorial Park 10.30am

Term 2 – Wednesday 26th April – Friday 23rd June

- Friday 28th April - SMMC Cross Country at Jindera Golf Course 11:30am – 2:00pm. Helpers needed.
- Saturday 6th May – Mother's Day Cake Stall in Jindera – baking prowess needed!
- May 9, 10th & 11th – 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
- Saturday 20th May – SMMC P&F BBQ at Bunnings – help will be needed!
- Monday 12th June – Labour Day Holiday

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
- Friday 10th – Sunday 12th November – Mothers and Daughters Camp at Howman's Gap

Curriculum Corner – Miss Tania Maclean



Kinder had the pleasure of receiving a visit from Mrs Scott, Thomas Garcia's Grandmother, who told us some amazing stories about their family history and shared with us their family tree.

Thank you Mrs Scott! Kinder have also been investigating their own family history and have interviewed a member of their family to find out where they were born, where they grew up and what they liked to do when they were younger.

LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE



Sincerity- A Virtue for these Times

Sincerity is that virtue of living truthfully. “To thine own self be true”. It is the virtue of honestly saying what is appropriate to the right person at the right time. It is about saying what you think and mean. It is about fully disclosing one's inner self when required without any falsehood.

Young children have a natural sincerity about them. They are enthusiastic about many day to day events and joyfully proclaim this. The opposite is also true. They certainly let you know when something is not right. They generally need a bit of work to say what is appropriate at the right time. There was a little girl I heard of who had been learning about modesty in dress; whilst out with her mother in K-Mart one day she remarked, “That lady isn't very modest Mummy, you can almost see her knickers under her skirt! “The mother replied that she should just say a 'Hail Mary' for the said lady. The little girl then started at the top of her voice, “Hail Mary full of grace....” Sometimes it takes a while to get the right balance for the virtue!

As with many virtues an understanding comes with knowing the lack of this virtue. This virtue is one of the easiest to feign, you may not be able to pretend to be courageous but you sure can pretend to be sincere. Marriage infidelity is fraught with the pretense of this virtue. A husband may be telling his wife he loves her while carrying on with someone else. The wife is shocked the day the unfaithful husband walks out. Insincerity includes giving false compliments or pretending to be someone you are not. It may be going through the motions of being married whilst having thoughts of hatred and resentment towards your spouse.

Father Peyton was a priest who was famous for his television evangelizing in the 1960s in the USA. He is the priest who was responsible for the “Family Rosary Crusade.” His most famous quote being, “the family that prays together, stays together.” When this priest was a seminarian he was afflicted with advanced TB. It was the sincere words of his ethics lecturer which turned the tide. This priest was the sort that didn't mince his words saying, “Our Lady will be as good to you as you think she is. If you think she is a fifty per-center that is what she will be; if you think she is a hundred per-center she will be for you a hundred per-center... (they) do not do as much as they could do, but the reason is we think they are not able. We limit them by the extent of our faith.” He prayed for recovery with renewed devotion and was cured. Believing his cure was due to Our Lady and her intercession he spent the rest of his life promoting devotion to her. His simple sincere message spread devotion to Our Lady all around the globe.

In a world confused by lies and deceit, promote sincerity in your family life as a virtue shining out into the world proclaiming the truth of Christ.

VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH - TEMPERANCE

“There are two ways to get enough.
One is to continue to accumulate more and more.
The other is to desire less.”

- G. K. Chesterton