

Saint Mary MacKillop College

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“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. Exodus 20:8-10

Week 9, Term 2

Friday 24th June, 2016

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

Well the end of the term has arrived! Today we celebrate the birth of John the Baptist, THE greatest of all the prophets, who prepared a way for the Lord, something we strive to do in our lives on a daily basis also.

“No one can receive anything except what is given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him. He who has the bride is the bridegroom; the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice; therefore, this joy of mine is now full. He must increase, but I must decrease.” (John the Baptist; John 3:27-30)

Well done to Angelus Saliba, our Hot Chips winner this week for doing a great job following our school rules.

2017 Enrolments

If you know of anyone looking to enrol their child in Kinder for 2017, please get them to touch base with me early next term. I will be conducting Kinder interviews/tours as part of the enrolment process and I look forward to meeting with these families and their children.

School Fete

A reminder that our next Fete Subcommittee Meeting will be on the first Wednesday back next term, **20th July at 2:30pm**. See you there.

Federal Election

Don’t forget to head to a polling booth on Saturday 2nd July to cast your vote. Your vote can make a big difference to the makeup of our Parliament, so please consider carefully. Attached to this newsletter is a brochure from the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, which you may find useful in informing you of the major parties’ policies on certain issues.

Working Bee

Our next SMMC Working Bee will be held on **Saturday 16th July 9am – 12pm** finishing with a BBQ lunch. Your assistance on the day would be much appreciated if you are able to come along. Thank you to Paul McAlister for his organisation of these days and to everyone who has been able to help out so far. Your generosity is very much appreciated and allows us to get jobs done at a very cost effective rate. Our school couldn’t do without your valued assistance.

Paella

I said it would be a paella storm, but it was more like a Tsunami! Thank you to Mr Williams and his able assistants for cooking us a wonderful feast last Friday as we farewelled Miss Godwin in style.



It has been a very busy end to the term and I want to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated staff for all they do at SMMC. I also want to thank our students for all their efforts throughout this semester. It is pleasing to read in their reports about the progress they are making and the areas of focus for the second half of the year. Thank you to our wider school community also, for the support you give to our school. When we work together, it is amazing what can be achieved. I am very much looking forward to (a break, yes), but also to continuing the great learning that has occurred throughout the first two terms.

Teachers will be back on board on Monday 18th July. Students will begin on Tuesday 19th July. Until then, have a restful break and stay safe. Thanks to everyone for a great six months at SMMC. This week’s quote at the top of newsletter reminds us of the need for rest in order to focus on the important things. God built this into the plan from the very beginning, so enjoy the break with your families.

God Bless

Luke Burton (Principal)

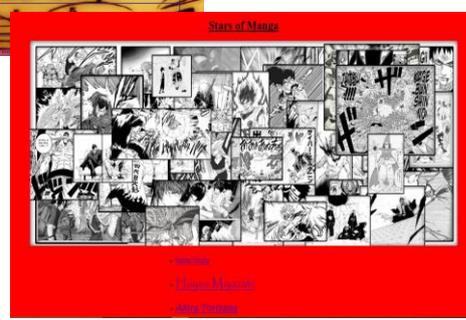
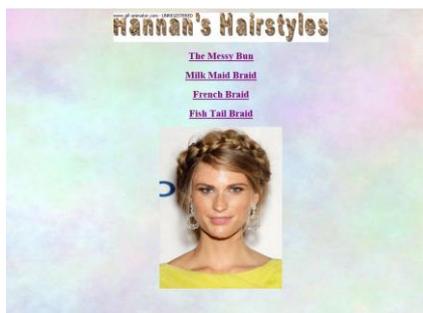
Dates for your diary...

- Saturday 16th July – SMMC Working Bee
- **Tuesday 19th July – Term Three begins for students**
- Wednesday 20th July – Fete Subcommittee Meeting 2:30pm
- Thursday 21st July – BISSA Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park
- Tuesday 26th July – Secondary School Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Thursday 4th August – Parents and Friends Meeting 7:30pm
- Saturday 6th August – Saint Mary MacKillop Gala Dinner at Commercial Club
- Monday 8th August – Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day
- Thursday 11th August – BIPSA Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park
- **Friday 12th August 7:30pm – Parent Evening with Dr Gerard O’Shea**
- Saturday 13th August – Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser for SMMC, 9am – 4pm. Volunteers needed please.
- **Friday 23rd September – Term Three finishes**

- **Tuesday 11th October – Term Four begins for students**
- Saturday 22nd October – SMMC Fete
- **Wednesday 26th October – 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, Harrietteville*
- **Friday 9th December – Term Four finishes**

~ CURRICULUM CORNER ~ Mrs Therese Mott-Pekolj

The students in year 9 and 10 computing have been working on a unit about the Internet. The students learned about the "good" and "bad" things about the Internet and had to prepare an oral presentation about one aspect of the Internet. Another part of this topic involved creating web pages. The students had to include graphics or drawings, an animation that they created, use of colours, different size fonts, coloured or graphical backgrounds, use of tables and lists and links to and from the home page to other linked pages. One student also included an interactive map and audio. The web pages were of a wide variety of topics from how to create a new hairstyle, favourite quotes, musical instruments football teams to fashion through the age plus anything in between. An image of each of the home pages is included below. Well done!





LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

In this busy day and age is Sunday just like any other day?

For us as Catholic families, Sunday is not an ordinary day. It is the day our Divine Lord rose from the dead. As the church insists on us going to Mass on Sunday by making it a precept of the church, we have a duty as parents to make Sunday a holy day every week in our home and family life.

Society has changed a lot in the last few decades. Twenty years ago all of the shops were closed on Sundays and very little was open after midday on Saturday. Fifty years ago nearly everybody went to church on Sundays, Catholics and Protestants alike. Now with Sunday trading, people can go shopping seven days a week. Before the second world war Sunday trading was common and quickly went out when there was a labour shortage during the war. It is only relatively recently that it has crept back in again. Some people such as nurses and those working in essential services may have to work on Sundays. The rest of us don't and we need to reclaim the Sabbath as a day of rest. By us teaching our children to hold firm to Sundays being a holy day we can work towards turning the tide back again.

A Jesuit priest Fr J.A. Hardon who wrote "The Catholic Family In The Modern World" lists key features Catholic families need to adopt to remain unified and strong in this modern world. One key feature is that family members should worship together. By going to Mass and the sacraments regularly as a family we teach the children about their faith and show by example how to practice it. In the same way children need to be taught to brush their teeth every day they also need to be taught to frequent Mass and confession. It may not seem so important when they are only three or four but try convincing a sixteen year old they need to go to Mass and Confession if you haven't laid the ground work!

Another point Fr Hardon sees as vital to family life is that family members should relax together. Taking Sunday out as a day to spend together helps promote family unity. Activities such as picnics, bush walking or family board games create memories of joy filled family time for children to draw upon later in life. For our family on Sundays we usually take time to have slow Sunday lunches together with the children getting involved in helping out with the cooking.

Some Catholic families have jealously guarded their Sundays as their children have grown older. They have encouraged their children to set aside Sunday to do family and not separate things. When one teenager wanted to work at McDonald's flipping hamburgers he told his employer right at the start he wasn't allowed to work on Sundays. The management respected his request and he never had any regrets.

Keep Sunday as a holy day and a family day. The firmer the Christian foundation of our family and the better society will be for it now and into the future.

Virtue for the Month of June-Patience

A virtue connected to the greater virtue of fortitude. "Patience helps us to handle the abundant setbacks, contradictions and sufferings of life. This virtue keeps us cheerful despite annoyances." Mary Ann Budnick

"We are what we repeatedly do, excellence then is not an act but a habit" -Aristotle