

## Saint Mary MacKillop College

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*"To maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children. Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the others."*

Saint Pope John Paul II

**Week 2, Term 2**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

It has been wonderful to see so many people supporting the Parish Mission being held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Thurgoona across this week. Fr Ben Cameron has been terrific to listen to and really helped us to reflect on the unending Mercy of God. He said we needed to remember to ASK for Mercy, BE Merciful and have CONFIDENCE in God's Mercy as well as reflect on the CROSS to see just how merciful God is.

### Cross Country

What perfect weather we had for our Cross Country last Friday at the Jindera Golf Course. I was unfortunately unable to be there, but it sounded like everyone got in and gave their best efforts and enjoyed the day. Thank you to Mrs Mott for all her organisation of the event and to the staff and parents for their assistance on the day. It was a closely contested competition with Saint Francis of Assisi taking out the day by a mere 19 points. They finished the day on 378 points with St John Bosco on 359 points.



Age champions are as follows:

- 5/6 Bethany Wright & Ignatius Cattell
- 7 Mikayla Phillips & Xavier Byrnes
- 8 Eve Woods & Patrick Simpson
- 9 Gabrielle Byrnes & Thomas Wright
- 10 Jacinta Irwin & John Suttie
- 11 Sarah O'Brien & Peter Wright
- 12 Clare Horsfall & Samuel Perry
- 13 Hope Woods & Franz von Marburg
- 14 Lucy Ryan & Samuel Irwin
- 15 Rosalee Murphy & Thomas Irwin
- 16 Bernadette O'Brien & Thomas Van Der Horst
- 17 Bernadette McCrohan & Matthew Woods
- Open Johanna Ryan & Joshua Morris



Representatives will be chosen from both primary and secondary to represent SMMC at the next level. BISSA (secondary) Cross Country will be held next Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May in Narrandera. The RAS Primary Cross Country will be held next Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May at Jindera Golf Course. Notes and permission slips will be sent home to the students who have been selected to attend these representative events. I'm sure they will give their very best efforts and represent our school well.

### P&F Mother's Day Cake Stall and Raffles

This Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May is our annual Mother's Day Cake Stall outside the Post Office in Jindera. Please drop off your baked goodies to the school tomorrow (Friday) or directly to the cake stall on Saturday morning from 7:30am. Please also keep selling those raffle tickets. If all tickets are sold it will be a great start to our fundraising efforts for 2017. The Mother's Day Raffle will be drawn next Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May, while the Wood Raffle will be drawn on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you to everyone for their support. We also have a **P&F Meeting next Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm**, so please come along if you are able to.

### NAPLAN

NAPLAN Tests will be conducted next week for our Years 3,5,7 and 9 students. Tuesday is Language Conventions and Writing, Wednesday is Reading and Thursday is Numeracy. These assessments are not meant to cause anxiety for students and we only ask they get in and do their very best. The assessments are a snapshot of the children's skills at a certain point in time, not a summation of their overall academic ability. Please come and see your child's teacher or myself if you have any questions or concerns.

God Bless, Luke Burton (Principal)

## Dates for your diary...

- 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
- **Term 2 – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**
- **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Cake Stall in Jindera – baking prowess needed!**
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – BISSA Cross Country at Narrandera
- May 9,10<sup>th</sup> &11<sup>th</sup> – NAPLAN Assessments for Years 3,5,7,9.
- Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> – P&F Meeting 7.30pm
- Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> – RAS Primary Cross Country
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May – P&F Mother's Day Raffle Drawn
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May – SMMC Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park, Albury
- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May – SMMC P&F BBQ at Bunnings – help will be needed!
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – ICAS Digital Technologies
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day – 12pm Mass then procession
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – P&F Wood Raffle Drawn
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May – ICAS Science
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Labour Day Holiday
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June – ICAS Writing
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June – ICAS Spelling
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Primary Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Term 3 – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**
- Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August – Saint Mary MacKillop Gala Dinner
- **Term 4 – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December**
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October – SMMC Annual Fete
- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November– Yr.12 Graduation Dinner, Banksia Room @ Commercial Club
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Mothers and Daughters Camp at Howman's Gap

## Curriculum Corner – Miss Julie McCormack



This term students in Year 5/6 are learning about their local environment as part of their Geography unit. As an introduction to the unit, we accepted an invitation to attend the Jindera Wetlands Gala day on Wednesday of this week. The students were engaged in a couple of activities that reinforced the concept of conservation of our waterways and the importance of maintaining local environments to protect the flora and fauna found in these parts. Grace Woods, pictured, volunteered to help demonstrate how water catchments are formed. Following on from the day, the class will contribute some of their learning to a book that will be published by the local authorities who facilitated the Gala day.



## LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

As we enter the month of May, the Church asks us to draw close to Mary. It is a time to renew devotion to our heavenly mother and to lead our children to do the same. How do you honour our Blessed Mother in your heart and your home?

God the Father must have truly valued motherhood to have given the world his only begotten Son, made flesh in the womb of Mary. Jesus could easily have appeared in the world as a man in much the same way as the angel Raphael appeared as a man to help Tobias. He who then went on to travel with him on his journey. He chose instead that this humble virgin from the town of Nazareth should be the mother of God. This month of May, ponder on these mysteries that surround Mary. God chose to be vulnerable in the womb of Mary and to be a tiny human baby to teach us the value of life from its very conception.

Encourage devotion to Mary in your family and especially with your children. Encourage them to wear a scapular or miraculous medal as a sign of consecration to Her. Your duty as a parent is to assist and lead your children to be saints in heaven. What could be better than having them wear the garment of Our Lady, the scapular that brings with it the promise of heaven for those who die wearing it. May is a time to step up your devotion to Mary in the home. Start praying the rosary more often as a family. Place flowers next to her statue or picture this month. Recite the consecration pray to your Heavenly mother as a family. No matter what you already do to honour Mary in your home, keep love for her alive by finding more ways to devote your family to Her. The rewards will be eternal!

This gentle loving mother travelled with her Son on the road to Calvary, isn't that what you desire for your children? As a parent you only have a short time when you journey alongside your children.

Renew your devotion to Mary today and she will intercede for you before the throne of God for all the graces you may need for this earthly pilgrimage. She will pray for you, "now and at the hour of our death" that you will one day be in Heaven with her.

### **St. Louis-De Montfort's Consecration**

I, N....., a faithless sinner-- renew and ratify today in thy hands, O Immaculate Mother, the vows of my Baptism; I renounce forever Satan, his pomps and works; and I give myself entirely to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, to carry my cross after Him all the days of my life, and to be more faithful to Him than I have ever been before.

In the presence of all the heavenly court I choose thee this day, for my Mother and Mistress. I deliver and consecrate to thee, as thy slave, my body and soul, my goods, both interior and exterior, and even the value of all my good actions, past, present and future; leaving to thee the entire and full right of disposing of me, and all that belongs to me, without exception, according to thy good pleasure, for the greater glory of God, in time and in eternity. Amen.

### **VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY - HUMILITY**

*"The beginning of humility is the beginning of blessedness and the consummation of humility is the perfection of all joy."* Thomas Merton