

Saint Mary MacKillop College

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“Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends”. John 15:13

Week 9, Term 1

Thursday 24th March, 2016

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

Please take note of the raffle tickets sent home this week for the first P&F Fundraiser of the year. We have already had books come back today, so thank you! You must write the name and phone number of the person buying each ticket and return the butt end to the office. The raffle will be drawn on Saturday 7th May after our Mother's Day Cake Stall outside the Post Office in Jindera.

WINTER UNIFORM

With the Autumn weather hitting us this week, it is time to get your Winter Uniform Orders in! Please fill in the attached sheet with uniform requirements and get it back to the office by the end of this term. Orders will be filled during the holidays. Thank you to Anastasia Byrnes for her work in coordinating this service.

HELPERS NEEDED!

Our Athletics Carnival is coming up quickly and the children have been working hard on honing their athletic skills! We need lots of extra hands to help out with a variety of jobs, so please **fill in the attached sheet** to indicate how you can help out. Looking forward to an enjoyable day of competition.

School Rules

At our Staff Meeting last night, we reviewed our School Rules and worked on formulating a concise set of rules and consequences to be used across the school. These rules do not replace what has been happening already, but instead consolidate it into six easily understood rules that can be applied to any situation. Having this structure in place gives us a consistent approach to behaviour management and assists teachers in getting on with the core business of learning and teaching. Please have a read of the page within this newsletter outlining the School Rules. These will be discussed as a whole school at next Tuesday's morning assembly and implemented from that point onwards. A set of rules will be displayed in every classroom and at other key places within the school. If you have any questions about our school rules, I am more than happy to meet with you.

ICAS

ICAS registration forms are due back by Tuesday 5th April. Please consider if your child would be interested in sitting any of these assessments and fill out the form included within this newsletter.

School Assembly

Please come along to our School Assembly next Friday 1st April where we will share our learning and recognise students with awards.

As the season of Lent draws to a close, I thought it worthwhile to reflect on this quote from Pope Benedict XVI.

"Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life..." -- Pope Benedict XVI

These are certainly big ideas, but as Catholics we are called to reflect on the bigger picture and to see how the hand of God is at play throughout history and in our times. In 'The Lord of the Rings' Frodo wonders why it is him who must take on the responsibility.

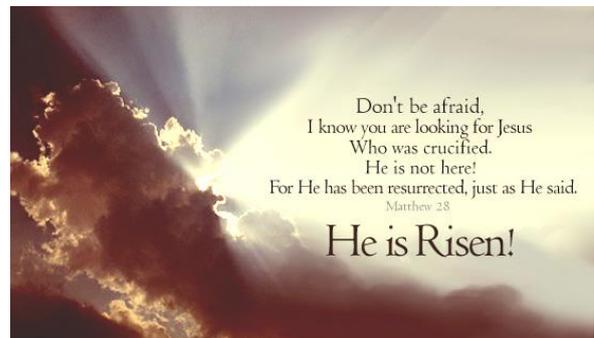
"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo. "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

We are all playing a role in history. We have a 'blank page' on which to write and need to decide what we will do with the time given to us.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Joyous and Holy Easter. Enjoy the four-day break and we will see you back at school next Tuesday.

God Bless

Luke Burton
Principal



School Rules

At our Staff Meeting we began by looking at how School Rules link with Natural Law. We then linked Natural Law with the Ten Commandments to see how the rules we have in place essentially come from God. St Ambrose is quoted as saying that "Law is twofold – natural and written. The natural law is in the heart, the written law on tables. All men are under the natural law". From that point we came up with six rules that will be used at Saint Mary MacKillop College. We also have an overarching statement about Respect. We looked at a consequence chart and finally discussed the use of a behaviour reflection sheet, which will be used as per the consequences chart. These School Rules will be used to reinforce the great choices our students make and to redirect their behaviour when needed. We look forward to working with you to implement these rules at SMMC to continue building a positive learning environment for your children.

Basic Rules of Courtesy

Natural Law	School Rules
1. Respect Authority	1. Follow Directions
2. Do not lay violent hands on others	2. Hands Off
3. Act with justice and equity to all	3. Treat others fairly
4. Respect the property of everyone	4. Be Responsible with property
5. Speak truly and honourably of others	5. Tell the Truth

Source of the Natural Law

Source	Natural Law
1. Honour your father and mother	1. Respect Authority
2. Thou shalt not kill	2. Do not lay violent hands on others
3. Thou shalt not covet	3. Act with justice and equity to all
4. Thou shalt not steal	4. Respect the property of everyone
5. Thou shalt not bear false witness	5. Speak truly and honourably of others

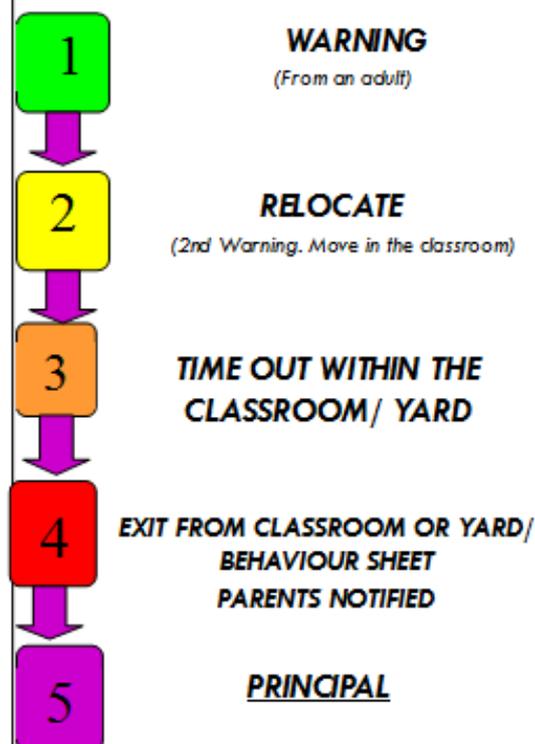
**At Saint Mary
MacKillop College
we...**

- Respect ourselves
- Respect others
- Respect our environment

SMMC Rules

- 1) Follow Directions
- 2) Move Safely
- 3) Keep hands, feet & objects to ourselves.
- 4) Speak Appropriately
- 5) Take care of all property
- 6) Listen to the speaker

SMMC Consequences



Behaviour Reflection Sheet

Date:

Time:

Name:

Location:

Adult following this reflection:

Rules broken: (please circle)

What happened?

I chose to....

What choices did you make?

I chose to....

Who else was affected by your poor choices and how?

How were you affected?

What can you now do to make things right? (how can you show this?)

Follow up/ Further action/ Parents notified (please circle)

Signatures: Student/ Adult/ Principal

School Rules:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Follow directions | 1. Listen to the speaker |
| 2. Moving safely | 3. Speak Appropriately |
| 4. Keeping objects, hands and feet to ourselves | 5. Take care of all property |

Dates for your diary...

- Thursday 31st March – Kinder and Year 5/6 Excursion to Jindera Pioneer Museum
- Friday 1st April – School Assembly after morning Mass
- Saturday 2nd April - *Rev Reece Beltrame Ordination*, St Michael's Cathedral Wagga Wagga. An invite is extended to all the SMMC Community – 8am bus leaves from St Patrick's Albury. Please book at St Patrick's on 02 60 412 588
- Sunday 3rd April 10am – Fr Reece Beltrame's First Mass at St Patrick's Albury
- Tuesday 5th April – ICAS Registrations due – see attached form
- Wednesday 6th April - *SMMC Athletics Carnival* at Alexandra Park 9:00am – 3:30pm
- Thursday 7th April 12:45 – 1:45pm – Year 7/8 TAS Class 'Market Day' for their unit 'Taking Care of Business'. Bring along some money to spend. All welcome.
- **Friday 8th April - Term One finishes**

- Monday 25th April – ANZAC Day. Student Representatives will be needed. Information to come.
- Saturday 30th April – SMMC Working Bee, 9:00am – 1:00pm
- **Wednesday 27th April – Term Two Begins for students**
- Saturday 7th May – Mother's Day Cake Stall in Jindera
- May 10, 11 and 12 – NAPLAN for Years 3,5,7 and 9.
- Thursday 12th May 7:30pm – Parents and Friends Meeting
- Sunday 22nd May – Lavington Parish Confirmation with Bishop Hanna
- Tuesday 24th May – Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day
- **Friday 24th June – Term Two finishes**

- **Tuesday 19th July – Term Three begins for students**
- Thursday 21st July – BISSA Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park
- 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
- **Friday 23rd September – Term Three finishes**

- **Tuesday 11th October – Term four begins for students**
- Saturday 22nd October – SMMC Fete
- Friday 11th November – Sunday 13th November - *Father/Son Camp, Harrierville*
- **Friday 9th December – Term four finishes**



LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

HOLY WEEK

As Lent draws to a close so do our preparations for the great feast of Easter. It is time to turn up the pace. This is the most important time in the liturgical calendar. It is the time when the Old and the New Testaments come together in the New Passover when the Lamb of God, Jesus, is crucified, buried and rises again.

'Palm Sunday' or 'Passion Sunday' began Holy Week. Palm Sunday is the day when Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem. The Jews thought that Jesus was their new King and they heralded him as such, waving palms and laying them under his feet. They thought he was coming to save them from their earthly problems of living under the suppression of the Roman empire. They had little understanding of the real mission of Christ despite the many writings of the prophets foretelling the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Take your children to all of the Easter ceremonies of the Triduum. It is a visual experience for both those who understand what is happening and those who don't. This habit of setting aside time for God will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Remind children to be quiet and prayerful from the end of Mass on Holy Thursday until the Easter Vigil. It is a time to enter into the events of the Passion. Think about Our Lord as he prays in the Garden of Olives, is imprisoned and then goes on the Via Crux (way of the cross). Think of him during his bitter passion and then Our Lady as she receives the lifeless body of her beloved son into her arms leaving him in the cold tomb.

On Holy Thursday explain to your children the Passover and how Jesus is the true Lamb. This is the time for the institution of the Holy Eucharist and also the priesthood. Read to your children about Abraham and Isaac. In the same way that Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only begotten son, so too does God the Father. This is the first time Jesus reveals the 'breaking of the bread'. Scott Hahn in his book 'The Lamb's Supper' speaks about how the early Christians were known as 'flesh eaters' or 'cannibals', since they ate the body and blood of Jesus. After Mass the altar is stripped and the Blessed Sacrament removed to the Altar of Repose, usually out of the Church. After Mass there are no signs of life in the church (there is no water or candles).

On Good Friday the priest enters the church clothed in red, symbolising blood. There are no candles or water, no bells are rung. The readings are of the Old Testament prophecies for the life and brutal death of Our Lord. They then move on to the retelling of the Passion. It is a very solemn time, so remind your children to leave the church in silence. On Holy Saturday there is no Mass, as at this time Jesus is in the tomb. It is fitting to think of the expectant waiting of Mary and the apostles.

The Easter Vigil ceremonies can only happen after dark, symbolising Jesus rising before the dawn. The Vigil ceremony is filled with signs of life. The candles are brought into the dark church symbolising Christ rising to life and dispelling the darkness of sin. The priests wear white or gold vestments. The bells are rung the whole way through the Gloria. The Holy Water is blessed and we are all sprinkled with it. It is a time for new life and hope. Celebrate! Christ is risen! We now live in the time of grace, and thanks to Jesus we are able to go to Heaven. Alleluia!

Virtue for the Month of March - *Hope*

“The confidence of Christians is the resurrection of the dead; believing this we live.”

Tert, De res. 1,1:PL 2, 841