I was pleased to make a presentation recently to the ladies who were the coordinators of the Melbourne Cup trifecta competition. I am always aware of the wonderful contributions that all parents continue to make to the culture and landscape and family atmosphere of Catherine McAuley School. We have well and truly moved on from the time when the only parent involvement in schools was to attend a less than exciting meeting (often on winter’s night with possibly 6 other parents!) or make some cakes for a stall.

Parent participation in this school covers a wide range of areas. Attending school assemblies, school liturgies, parents and grandparents being part of educational programs, sports carnivals, school celebration days, are just some of the events in which our parents are involved.

Whilst some of these roles are hands-on and involve being part of the event and program organisation, our students greatly appreciate it when someone from their family is simply attending school events as a supporter and spectator. It creates a strong message of community and creates a wonderful family atmosphere of both parents and teachers being involved in the education of the child.

On other matters I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Belinda Wilson as the new Primary Coordinator for our school. We know Belinda will do an excellent job and also has offered to be the personal trainer for the male members of the executive! We will also be limiting executive meetings to one “Pink” song per week.

Michael Croke
Student of the Week
Congratulations to the following who were awarded student of the week: Jayde Spicer, Persephone Coughlan, Marley Takiari, Sherwin Hogg, Isabella Budworth, Darcy Kelly, Claudia Johnson, Madison Allen, Laura Daniel, Clare Finley, Hamish Gibson, Sienna Belmonte, Anaok Wei, Emily Irwin, Will Bingham, Thomas Tudor, Vita Pappalardo, Ethan Rayner, Noah Bartlett, Siena Redmond.

Summer Sports Trials
Last Tuesday Mrs Carpenter accompanied over 20 McAuley students to Dubbo to take part in the Diocesan Summer Sports Trials. From all reports our students were great ambassadors for our school representing McAuley with pride. The sportsmanship and skill they displayed was of a high standard. Congratulations to the following students who where selected to represent the Diocese at the Polding Trials next year: Softball – Leo Ferguson; Tennis – Thomas Dews; Touch Football – Sean Carpenter, Lucy Warner, Jesse Dean, Ella Robins, Lucy Nagle, Nikya Gentles & Samantha Medlyn.

Leaving the School
If your child or children in Kindergarten to Year 5 will not be returning to Catherine McAuley in 2014 please contact the school office ASAP so classes can be finalised.

Rewards Day
As the year draws to an end the teachers are planning an end of year Rewards Day to the pool, movies, tenpin bowling or something similar. Any student who has been on a Level 4 during the year will not be eligible to attend the Rewards Day. Level 4 is an in-school suspension where the student has been removed to work in the office or picked up from school for an indiscretion. Rewards are a major part of the Behaviour Management Policy at McAuley. It is important that students are rewarded for displaying the expected behaviour at school.

Before School Routine
A reminder that teachers are busy preparing for lessons before school. This is not the time to come and discuss your child’s progress or concerns you may have with the teacher. If you have something urgent to share with your child’s class teacher it would be appropriate to come to the main office and a message can be given to the teacher or an appointment made. By this time of the year all students including Kindergarten are capable of bringing notes and lunch orders into the class on their own.

Change of Date for the Year 6 Mass & Farewell
Will be held on Monday, 9 December. A reminder to the Year 6 Parents to send in the $25 to help with costs of the evening. A committee of Year 6 parents has been formed to organise the celebration following the Mass. If you indicated that you can help you will be contacted soon. A big Thank You to the Year 5 parents who have offered to help serve and clean up on the night. A note will be sent home closer to the date to inform you of the details.

Year 6 Reward Burrendong Dam
The Year 6 teachers have been extremely impressed with the behavior and attitude of the Year 6 students this year. As a result the Year 6 will have their rewards day at Burrendong Dam. This trip will be subsidised by the PACER rebate from the Canberra Excursion.

Steve Maguire
O Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, come and dwell with us.
Desire of all nations;
Gift to every generation,
Come, make your home with us.

The Season of Advent
This weekend we begin the Church’s Season of Advent. This marks the final lead up to Christmas and is a time to reflect on how we are travelling in our own relationship with God. The Advent Wreath with its four candles symbolise this special time. There are three purple candles and one rose coloured candle. The purple candles represent a time of reflection and acknowledgment of our need for God’s mercy, while the rose candle symbolises the hope of the Christ-child who’s birth will bring salvation. This Sunday we light the first purple candle and reflect on Luke’s Gospel, which reminds us to be ready in our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Christmas Hampers
With the beginning of Lent comes our realisation that Christmas is really not that far away! It is also time to start gathering items for our annual Christmas Hampers. Each year we ask families to send in non-perishable goods which can be used to fill food hampers for those less fortunate than ourselves in our community. These hampers are then given to St Vincent de Paul for distribution around our local community bringing the Spirit of Christmas to those who really need it. Teachers will be decorating boxes this week ready for donations of non-perishable goods. It would be wonderful if each student could bring in just one item to place in the hampers. This could be a tin of biscuits, pudding mix, Christmas decorations, etc, anything that can make it truly a Christ-filled celebration. Goods need to be into classrooms by Wednesday, 11 December so they can be organised to be brought up in our final Mass on the Friday.

Change of Date of Year 6 Farewell Mass
A reminder to parents of Year 6 Students that due to a clash of dates with St Mary’s School, we have moved our Year 6 Farewell Mass to Monday, 9 December at 6.00pm. This will be followed by celebration meal for the Year 6 students in Kenna Hall.

Liturgies and Masses
Our Year One students celebrated a beautiful Grade Liturgy today. Thank you to all who joined Year One for this celebration. This was our last Grade Liturgical Celebrations for this year. Our final celebration will be our End of Year Mass on Friday, 13 December at 9.30am. It has been a wonderful year and we have much to thank God for. At this Mass we will announce our School Captains for 2014 and present the Year 6 prizes. It would be great to have families join us for the Mass and then stay to see the students’ presentations in their classes after Recess.

Wishing you a wonderful week, God Bless,

Robyn Petty
**PRIMARY COORDINATOR**

**Classroom Presentation**
Our presentation day will take place on Friday, 13 December. At the conclusion of the Mass and Awards Ceremony, families are invited to join us for recess followed by a small presentation from each class. These presentations will take place in your child’s classroom. Please take note of the following times.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.30am - 12.00 noon</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45am - 12.15 pm</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 noon - 12.30 pm</td>
<td>K</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15pm - 12.45 pm</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30pm - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
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**LUNCH BREAK**  (Picnic outside the music room with entertainment from the school bands)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.00pm - 2.30pm</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.15pm - 2.45</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lost Property**
We have a great deal of lost property at the school. For the following week this lost property will be placed at the back of both buildings before school each day. Please feel free to check for any items that have been misplaced by your child. Any lost property not claimed after that time will go to the Clothing Pool. Non-school uniform items will be sent to St Vincent De Paul.

**Clare Miller**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**Congratulations!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maddison D’Ombrain</td>
<td>Alexander Duffy</td>
<td>Riley Nunn</td>
<td>Charlotte Collins</td>
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**TUCKSHOP**

**Roster – Commencing Monday 2 to Friday 6 December 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>9.30am-11.30am</th>
<th>11.30am-2.00pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>K D’Ombrain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>A Morley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>M Ward &amp; D Smith</td>
<td>J Gummer, T Horan, J Cook, M Hurley</td>
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</tbody>
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**KOALA CLUB BANKING**

The last day for Koala Club Banking for 2013 will be next **Monday, 2 December. Banking will resume in Week 3 of 2014.** Any bank books received after 2 December 2013 or before Week 3, 2014, will be held in the office until banking resumes.

**CLOTHING POOL: LAST DAY FOR 2013**

The Clothing Pool will only be open for just 1 more day before the end of the year. This will be on Monday, 2 December from 8.30-10.30am. This will be the last opportunity to purchase items from the Clothing Pool. Any donations can be left at this time or sent into the School Office.
CLASS OF THE WEEK: KC

In HSIE Kindergarten classes have been visiting many special places. We have been to .........

The town library.

The Botanical Gardens

Last Friday we went to the Botanical Gardens.

We went on the bus to the Botanical Gardens.

First we played on the equipment. Then we ate our fruit.

Freya

Yesterday we went to the Conservatorium. They teach music. We saw the violin and my favourite was the drum kit. It is cool and...
As we get ready for Christmas we are making lots of fun Christmas crafts and to spread the true meaning of this lovely season KC are visiting the Nursing Home to sing and act out the Nativity.

In Science we have been learning about what we need to stay alive!

Our class pets, Lilly and Sam, our hermit crabs need water, sand, food and their shell to shelter in for them to stay alive.

The vegetables that we have planted with Mr Pappalado need water, sunshine and good soil.

We are planning what our chooks need when they come to live at Catherine McAuley School.

We have had a fun time at School learning about Staying Alive!!