FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I welcome everyone to Catherine McAuley for 2017. I extend a very special welcome to all those children and families who are just beginning their McAuley journey either as a student or a parent or carer. I am confident that it will be a happy association on all fronts and your children especially will find the experience a joyful and productive one.

On more mundane matters I also welcome you to the first "online only" school newsletter. All families will receive a copy of the newsletter to their email address each Wednesday afternoon.

I am aware that many families in our McAuley community experienced much sadness over the Christmas holidays. We especially pray for the families of staff members Sharyn Fitzgerald and Annalisa Covelli and all those other families in our school who are experiencing personal and family illness and hardship.

I invite all families (new and old) to the McAuley welcoming barbecue on Sunday 12th February in the school grounds commencing at 10:30am. A separate note will be sent out to gather numbers for catering purposes.

Michael Croke

Let charity be our badge of honor… So that it may truly be said, there is in us but one heart and one soul in God.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Parent Teacher Information Evenings:

PLEASE NOTE THE DATES OF THESE MEETINGS – they were incorrect on original note. Sorry for any inconvenience.

We would like to invite you to an information night in Week 2 of school. At this meeting you will be advised on the various school and grade procedures. Kindergarten and Year 1 meetings will take place in the Kindergarten and Year 1 classrooms. Please note that this meeting is not a parent/teacher interview. If you have a concern about your child or you don’t get a chance to meet your child’s teacher on the night, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 - Year 6</td>
<td>Monday 6th February 2017</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>Classrooms: Invitation to look in classrooms and meet the teacher.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>Kenna Hall Year 2- Year 6 parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Tuesday 7th February 2017</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 8th February 2017</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>Year 1 Classrooms</td>
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McAuley Swimming Carnival: The McAuley Swimming carnival will be held at the Orange Aquatic Centre next Wednesday 8th February. All children from Year 3 – Year 6 will attend the carnival. Children who are not competitive swimmers (unable to confidently swim 50M) will take part in novelty events. Year 2 children who are turning 8 this Year and are confident 50M swimmers are invited to attend as part of the Diocesan sport pathway. Year 2 children who are not able to complete 50M confidently will stay at school. All notes for our swimming carnival must be returned by tomorrow so races can be organised. Any parents who can help on the day please fill in the note and return it to your child’s class teacher. If you are not allocated a job there please see me on the day and we will organise something.

Southern Region Swimming Carnival: Friday 24th February at Orange Aquatic Centre.

Protected Learning Time at Catherine McAuley:
As part of our commitment to becoming a Professional Learning Community (PLC) the staff have committed to Protected Literacy & Numeracy Learning Time. Which means there will be no interruptions to learning time between 9:00am and 11:00am Monday to Thursday. “Protected” means no interruption - No messages / phone calls / PA announcements / no children doing classroom jobs unless it is an emergency. There is minimal teacher release during this time. There will also be a focus on Reading from 11:20am – 12:00pm in all classes across the school on Monday to Thursday as well. We do encourage parents to make appointments for their children outside these times if possible.

Catherine McAuley Bell Times:
- A warning bell will go at 8:55am and children will begin to move in to class and the Kindergarten & Year 1 children move to their lines
- 9:00am – 11:00am – first session
- 11:00am – 11:20am – recess
- 11:20am – 1:20pm – middle session
- 1:20pm – 2:10pm – lunch
- 2:10pm – 3:10pm – afternoon session
- Fruito and Daily PE will be at the teachers discretion.

- Friday assembly will be (roughly) every two weeks (see term calendar for dates) a class will be responsible for showing. Assemblies will include a prayer, class showing work, awards, messages from teachers, Hymn practice for Masses (liturgies), National Anthem etc. Assemblies will be Friday from 12:15pm in Kenna Hall. Parents are welcome.
- Each grade from Year 1 – Year 6 will have a Student Assistant for three days a week during the protected learning and Reading time.

As well as our wonderful new Learning Spaces, commitment to Learning and now protected Literacy & Numeracy time we are focused on working collaboratively to ensure all children reach their potential.

Learning for all...EXPECT, INSPIRE, ENGAGE.

Steve Maguire
FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Welcome back to yet another very busy year! I hope everyone had a restful and refreshing break over the holidays.

Opening School Mass: We will be celebrating our Opening Mass next Thursday, 9th February at 10:00am. At this Mass our Captains will be presented with their badges and as leaders of our school, the Year 6 children will make their Pledge of Leadership. We would love to have you join us for this very special Mass.

New Clergy: At the end of last year, the Bishop announced moves for a number of priests in our Diocese. Fr Garry has now moved to Lithgow, and this year we welcome Fr Greg Bellamy as our new Parish Priest, and Fr Pius Khaoya, who will join Fr Ephrem as an Assistant Priest to the Parish of St Mary and St Joseph. Together they will look after the pastoral needs of all our schools and Churches. We look forward to celebrating with them throughout the year.

Liturgies and Masses for this Term: With the change of Clergy, I haven’t had time to organise Masses and Liturgies for this year. This will be done during this week and a full list of this term’s Masses and Liturgies will be placed in next week’s newsletter.

In Sympathy: We offer our condolences to Sharyn Fitzgerald and Annalisa Covelli on the passing of Sharyn’s mother and Annalisa’s father. May God be with them and their families at this difficult time. May the souls of these beautiful people rest in peace.

Wishing you a great week,
God Bless,
Robyn Petty

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL continued...

Uniform Policy (Hairstyles): Please find the following extract from our uniform policy. The “Hair below the shoulders must be pulled back off their face” does apply to boys and girls. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Children are expected to be attired in the correct school uniform each day of the school year and to present themselves in line with school dress policy, which stipulates:

- Extremes of hairstyle are not permitted, these include coloured hair and haircuts or undercut less than a ‘two’ or rats tails. Hair below the shoulders must be pulled back off their face.
- no bracelets, bangles, necklaces or anklets - a religious medal on a fine chain may be worn.
- one small ring only.
- no nail polish.
- one set of earrings only sleepers or studs; boys: one single sleeper or stud.
- long hair to be tied back with ribbons, scrunchy or hair band in school colours or pink checked in Summer.
- T-shirts under short sleeved shirts are not permitted.

Steve Maguire

Loving God, as this new School Year begins, you invite us to walk with you in faith, hope and love. Encourage us and inspire us. Throughout the year, help us to be aware of your presence with us, showing us how to walk with you. We make our prayer in Jesus’ name.

Amen
Welcome back to another school year. Over the past few years we have witnessed many changes at Catherine McAuley and over this time we have worked extremely hard to continually update our procedures and policies to ensure the safety of our students. The following procedures have been outlined below to ensure that all families are aware of our before and after school protocols. While some of these measures may seem inconvenient they have been developed to ensure the safety of your children and so we ask that you support these policies and where needed discuss these with your children.

**Locking of Gates**
Securing the Catherine McAuley site is of paramount importance to ensure the safety of our students. For this reason, we remind parents that gates are locked at 9:05 am and re-opened at 2:45pm each day. The gates are locked at this early part of the day to ensure safety and also to limit interruption to the learning for our Year 6 House Captains who have the role of locking and unlocking the gates. Any child who arrives after the gates are locked at 9.05 must enter through the main office front door to be signed in by a parent or guardian.

**Arrival At School**
There are some children arriving at school well before 8.35am. Please note that playground supervision does not begin until 8:35am. While we do understand that there may be occasional instances when arrival before this time is unavoidable, we cannot guarantee that the gates will be opened.

The first gate that will be opened (usually around 8am) is the gate between Kenna Hall and the school office in Hill St. Children who arrive prior to 8:35am are asked to move through this gate and directly to the undercover seats in Area A where they are to remain SEATED to wait for the teachers to arrive on duty. The remaining gates will be opened by the supervising teachers when duty commences at 8:35am.

Once again, students should not be arriving at school before 8:35am and if arrival before this time is unavoidable then children must follow the above procedure.

**Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures**
On advice from the RMS we remind parents to collect children from the school grounds in the afternoon. (Either Byng St or Hill St pick-up locations) Students will not be allowed to walk to parents waiting in cars. As cars reverse park it is very difficult to see young children who are not in the presence of an adult and this creates a very dangerous situation.

If your child walks/ride home, a note must be sent in to provide permission for children to walk/ride home without an adult. Only these children are permitted to leave the school grounds without the supervision of an adult. In these instances please ensure that you have mapped the safest route for your child and that they are aware of safety protocols should they encounter any difficult situations on their way home.

Please note that no children are permitted to use the play equipment or to use sporting equipment (soccer balls etc) after the school day has ended even if they are in the presence of their parent or guardian. We ask that you be diligent in reminding your children of this school rule.

We thank you for your support in ensuring that our students are safe when arriving and leaving the school grounds.

**Cords on School Hats**
It is great to see our students wearing their hats during the hotter weather. Many of the younger students have a hat which includes a cord. This cord provides minimal assistance in keeping the hat on, however, can be dangerous when playing on equipment. It would be better for the cord to be cut off to avoid this issue.

Camille da Silva Tavares
What is My Child Learning?
Your child is learning the rules for how to be a good listener. These rules help your child know how to listen and act in a group so everyone can learn.

Why is This Important?
Being a good listener helps children be better learners. Following the Listening Rules helps children listen and pay attention in class.

Ask your child: **What are the Listening Rules in your class?**
(Ask your child to tell you each rule and show you the action that goes with it. Rules are listed at right.)

Practise at Home
Before giving directions for daily activities, such as picking up toys or washing hands, remind your child to use the Listening Rules.

For example:

**You need to use your Listening Rules now.** Say each rule and do the actions along with your child, then give the directions: **We're getting ready to leave now, so put on your shoes and coat.**

Music and Drama
Our instrumental program will begin over the next fortnight. The band program will commence this Friday, for both Training Band and Senior Concert Band members so please bring your instruments and folders if you have them.

The Guitar program will commence next week, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Groups are being finalised this week and children will be informed as soon as possible regarding their inclusion and lesson times. The Beginner Group is full, with a waiting list. Children will be allocated a space depending on the order in which I received their applications at the end of last year. I'm hoping to arrange two groups but if that is not possible, I apologise in advance for any resulting disappointment.

Anne Allan

Birthdays

*Happy Birthday to the following children who have had birthdays during the holidays in January, and this week:*

Tuckshop

**Roster—Commencing Monday 6th February to Friday 10th February 2017**

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<th>Day</th>
<th>9.30am—11.30am</th>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>F Dunn / K D’Ombraim</td>
<td>J Griffiths / S Mendel / R Fraser</td>
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* B Spurr 12:45-1:45pm

Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942
Welcome Kindergarten!

We would like to extend a HUGE Catherine McAuley welcome to our new Kindergarten students! We look forward to the next seven years of learning, laughter and fun.