FROM THE PRINCIPAL

More words from Sister Joan Chittister as we ponder those things in our life that truly matter.

A Heart for Nature
The trees and the stones will teach you what you never learn from the masters. Bernard of Clairvaux

To cultivate an appreciation of nature is to deepen our own spiritual life, to come closer to creation, to see our own moral responsibility to it, in the way we treat every blade of grass. To live in harmony with nature is to be more alive ourselves.

Our synchronicity with nature is demonstrated by the emotional effect it has on us. When it’s dark, so can we become morose. When mist hangs in the mountains around us, when the fog sets in, so do we become reflective. When the sun is burning the stones, every nerve comes alive in us. Each change is nature calling us to go deeper into the rhythms of life. It is seeing ourselves as part of nature rather than outside of it that attunes the soul to the teachings of nature.

We do not “control” nature. Nature controls us. The only problem is that it takes a modern, industrial world generations to understand that. When we destroy nature without the implications of what we are doing to the future, nature always has the last word. Look at what we are doing to the earth, and you will know what changes we need to make in our own lives if we are to be truly seekers of God.

Walking through nature, we walk hand in hand with God who enlivened it. The only question is: Shall we bring it life or death? In one of her visions, Hildegard of Bingen, 12th-century mystic, says of nature: “I am that living and fiery essence of the divine substance... I shine in the water; I burn in the sun and the moon and the stars.” Oh, to live long enough and well enough to come to see those things ourselves.

Michael Croke

Catholic Parish of Orange Sesquicentenary 150 years (1864-2014)

COMING EVENTS
Google Apps for Education Information Evening
Thursday 3rd April 7:00PM
Sr Clare Murphy Room
Hot Cross Bun Orders Due Now!!

Humble and Sincere
If we are humble and sincere, God will finish in us the work He has begun. He never refuses His grace to those who ask it.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Student of the Week:** Congratulations to the following children who were awarded student of the week: Hayley Hunter, Sophie Hogen, Ruby Draper, Feba Babu, Cameron Bray, Alexander Morley, Angel Tom, Eve Genrich, Caitlyn Shields, Shay-lea Iffland, James Gibson, Emily Caufield, Kallum Sullivan, Bonnie Murphy & Natalie Karamanolis.

**Whole School Assembly:**
Our next Whole School Assembly will be presented by Year 1 on the 4\textsuperscript{th} April at 12.00pm in Kenna Hall. All welcome.

**NSW Catholic Primary Schools Swimming Carnival:** Congratulations to our talented swimmers and their families who took them to Homebush to compete in the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Swimming Carnival. Lucy Nagle achieved GOLD in the 50M backstroke, BRONZE in the 100M free style and came 4\textsuperscript{th} in the 50M Free Style, 4\textsuperscript{th} 50M Backstroke and 4\textsuperscript{th} in the Individual Medley. What an achievement. Arnie Tancred came 13\textsuperscript{th} in 50M Butterfly, our Junior Girls Relay Team (Alliyah Bush, Emma Kennedy, Meg Lenehan & Emily Becavac) came 9\textsuperscript{th} overall and our Senior Girls Relay (Lucy Nagle, Phoebe Showell, Audrey Madigan & Jessie Dean) competed strongly. All children were a credit to our school and we are very proud of them.

**McAuley Athletics:** I can’t believe we were lucky enough to run our Athletics Carnival on Monday with all the rain we had last week. It was a wonderful day for the whole school with outstanding athletic performances, displays of sportsmanship and friendship. Thank you to Mr Pauschmann and his staff for allowing us to use the Sheahan school grounds. Mrs Jordan and her Year 11 students were a huge help setting up, packing up and organising the novelties. Thank you to Mrs Dwyer for organising the canteen and the many teachers and parents who helped out on the day.

**House Points:** 1\textsuperscript{st} – Kabbarli, 2\textsuperscript{nd} – Bennelong, 3\textsuperscript{rd} – Woomera & 4\textsuperscript{th} - Euroa

**Grade Champions:**
- Kindergarten – Sophie Hogben & Jack Gow
- Year 1: Sage Annis -Brown & Taj Jordan
- Year 2: Tess Hazzard & Noah Richards

**Age Champions:**
- 8 Years: Hayley Baird & Jack Dean
- 9 Years: Mackenzie Innes & Liam Kennedy
- 10 Years: Chloe Jaques & Arnie Tancred
- 11 Years: Amelia Wilcox & Jack Ryan
- 12 Years: Ella Robins & Justin Rhind

From the Year 3-6 Carnival we will select a team to represent Catherine McAuley at the Southern Region Carnival in Canowindra.

**Professional Learning:** Miss Wilson and Mrs Haydon attended the Pat Maths Data In-service on Tuesday. Mr Hudson attended the Dio Sports Council Meeting on Tuesday. Mrs Croke, Mrs Pellow, Mrs Cracknell & Mrs White will attend the first of the eight day reading to Learn Course this Thursday & Friday in Dubbo. Mrs Betina Spora Occupational Therapist spoke to the staff at our Meeting on Tuesday and she visited the classrooms on Wednesday. Mrs Lorraine Short (Catholic Education Office) Mrs Sands and Mrs Kelly trained the many volunteers in Multi Lit last Thursday so we can help children to develop sound reading skills. Mr Croke will attend the Principals Meeting this Friday.

**BYNG STREET ROAD CLOSURE:** The council has informed the school that:
Byng St will be closed between Sale & Hill Streets on the school side Monday 7\textsuperscript{th} April from 9.00am – 3.00pm and on the other side of the road on Tuesday 8\textsuperscript{th} April from 7.00am – 4.00pm. Later in the week they will be working on Byng St between Hill and Clinton Streets. These dates may change if the work takes longer. Please be aware that there will be disruption to Byng St near McAuley School for the week beginning April 7\textsuperscript{th}.

Steve Maguire
FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Project Compassion: Thank you so much for your wonderful support of Project Compassion this year. Quite a few Project Compassion boxes have been returned already, and as there is usually a lot of coin to count, we would appreciate the boxes coming back to school before the end of term. The sooner we can get it banked, the sooner we can get the money to those who need it so badly. Once again, thank you for continuing to support this wonderful cause, and encouraging your children to look beyond our own comforts to those who have almost nothing.

Lent: This weekend sees the last of the five Sundays in Lent. This week, St John’s Gospel brings us the story of Lazarus. Lazarus along with his two sisters Martha and Mary were good friends of Jesus. Jesus receives word that Lazarus is ill, but doesn’t rush to his side. He waits a little time before leaving. By the time he arrives Lazarus has died and is already in a tomb. Jesus, through God’s authority, commands Lazarus to come out of the tomb. This story takes place very close to Easter, and to Jesus’ own death and resurrection. Through the resurrection of Lazarus, Jesus reminds us that we too will rise from the dead.

Way of the Cross: This year our Lent / Easter celebrations will take the form of a series of tableaus in which the children follow the events of Holy Week. This will take place in Kenna Hall on the last day of the school term, Friday 11th April. We will commence at approx. 12.15pm and all families and friends are very welcome to join us.

Confirmation Parent Meeting: Confirmation will be held on the weekend of 31st May and 1st June this year in Orange. On Tuesday 29th April, there will be a Parent Meeting for those parents of children in Year 6 who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. The meeting will take place at 7.00pm in St Mary’s Church. The purpose of this meeting is to give Parents information relating to the reception of the Sacrament. This is an important meeting and it is expected that all parents of Confirmation Candidates will attend. The meeting is only expected to last for one hour.

Wishing you a great week,
God Bless,
Robyn Petty

 INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

The eruption of Krakatoa in 1883 was the loudest sound in recorded history. It was heard 3,000 miles away in Mauritius.
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

Easter Hat Parade

On Friday, 11th April, (last day of Term 2) children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having an Easter Hat Parade.

The parade will take place from 2:15pm in the Byng St playground. Parents are invited to attend and may take their children home at the end of the event.

Each child will be making a hat during class time, however parents may wish to make a hat with their child at home, that can be worn during the parade instead of the one made in class.

We look forward to sharing this special Easter celebration with the Catherine McAuley community.

Google Apps For Education

The school will be holding an information evening on Thursday 3rd April at 7pm in The Sr Clare Murphy Room. The aim of the session is to outline the introduction of student email accounts and the use of Google Apps for Education.

Infants Athletics Carnival

Clare Miller
MUSIC & DRAMA

Plays
Thank you to all the parents and friends who've attended the plays recently. The children appreciate your interest and encouragement.

The final play for this term will be next **Monday 12.45pm** when 6H perform "Paradise Island" in the Sr Clare Murphy room (Please note change of day).

Band
The Concert Band will be performing at this Friday's assembly in Kenna Hall. Band rehearsals will be swapped this week:

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR KINDERGARTEN

Science Afternoon: Thursday 10th April Week 11
Excursion to Sheep & Cattle Drome: Friday 9th May (Cost $30)
Theatre Visit to Mc McGee: Friday 1st August (Cost approx. $8.50)
Excursion to Botanical Gardens: November (date tba - Cost approx. $6.00)

HOT CROSS BUNS

Hot Cross Bun orders are due back tomorrow (Thursday 3rd April). Please consider purchasing some buns as this is our fundraiser for Term 1. I know it seems a little early with Easter being in the middle of the school holidays. The buns do freeze well!! **All funds raised go towards purchasing resources for your children.**

BIRTHDAYS

**Happy Birthday to the following children:** Noah Daley-Beggs, Hannah Daley-Beggs, Lual Thit, Cooper Johns, Elizabeth Gibson, Harry Mulligan, Tyse Rolton, Zak Wright, Darcy Kelly, Henry Bouffler,

TUCKSHOP

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ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2014