We are all very aware that those people living in Sydney are experiencing the seriousness of the COVID Pandemic in a much more serious way than those of us in the Orange district. There is a real chance that Sydney schools will not return as normal for at least this term. We are very mindful of all the front line workers involved in the pandemic especially those in the medical field who are no doubt working beyond normal expectations. To give such workers a tiny boost and to say "thank you" we will as a school this week (all students) be sending thank you cards to the medical staff (especially the Emergency Department) at Liverpool Hospital so they feel appreciated for all the wonderful work that they do. I thank the students and staff for their enthusiasm with this gesture.

Michael Croke
Focus of the Week: This week we are looking at how we can play safely in the playground while using sports equipment. Each time we play on the Monkey Bars or Flying fox, or any of the other equipment that is fun, we need to be aware of how to keep ourselves and others safe. There are also lots of groups who enjoy playing with footballs and soccer balls. So that all children are able to play and also keep safe, we need to follow rules and regulations. Then no one gets accidentally hit by a flying football or soccer ball that has been kicked too high. We need to show consideration for everyone when we are playing.

Important points for students:

- We always need to play safely on the playground.
- Be aware of how to be safe on the different play equipment.
- Always give others room to play, especially on the Flying Fox and the Monkey Bars.
- Never push others on play equipment.
- Footballs and soccer balls should only be kicked to a teachers’ head height and no higher.
- If students continue to break the rules, individuals will be removed from the game.
- The safety of all children is more important than the game.
- Be aware of the safety of others when playing with any equipment.

Child Safe Standards: We all have an obligation to keep our children safe. At McAuley we are looking at how we can follow the new Child Safe Standards introduced as a response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. These Child Safe Standards provide a framework for making organisations such as McAuley safer for children. There are 10 Standards altogether, and each week in the newsletter I will put information about one of the Standards. If you would like to look at the entire Guide to the Child Safe Standards, this can be found using the following link to the NSW Government Office of the Children’s Guardian: https://www.ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/training-and-resources/child-safe-standards This week we will focus on Standard No. 1.
Standard 1: Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture

A child safe organisation is committed to child safety. This is demonstrated in its leadership, in the way the organisation is managed and by the day-to-day activities it carries out. A child safe organisational culture drives the way things are done and how issues and risks are managed.

At McAuley, we aim to show good leadership by creating and maintaining a culture where children’s rights and safety are prioritised. We ensure all staff and parents know and understand that we believe keeping children safe is the responsibility of everyone in our School Community. This is why we often address safety issues in our Newsletter, at Assemblies and through our social media. We liaise with our Centacare Councillor to support students who need emotional support, and through our Safe Guarding Office at the CEBD to offer students and families with greater needs the opportunities to gain good council and make plans to support them. The school rules; Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe highlight the importance we place on keeping children safe. In all we do at McAuley, we put the needs of our students first, especially their safety.

Afternoon Procedures: Thank you for your cooperation with School Pickup during this very trying time. We understand McAuley doesn’t have the shelter or space outside for our parents and it is often difficult to maintain social distancing, but please be aware that we are governed by these rules and all residents of NSW are expected to follow them. Please make sure you have a mask on while picking up children, collect them as quickly as possible then leave the school grounds. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Class Assemblies: Class assemblies are still on hold at the moment. We will make decisions regarding how and when these will take place in the next few weeks. Thank you once again for your patience as we readjust the Assembly Roster.

Southern Region Athletics’ Carnival: The weather conditions have once again interfered with our sporting competitions, making venues unsuitable for the dates we had chosen. We are currently looking at how these carnivals can be rescheduled. We will inform you as soon as the new dates are confirmed.

Please Don’t forget to wear your coat!! The weather has been so cold and wet recently so please remember to bring a coat to school every day! Please make sure that all coats and other items such as gloves, beanies etc have been labelled in case they are lost.

Wishing you a great week,
Robyn Petty
St Mary of the Cross - Mary Mackillop (Feast Day 8th August)
On the 8th August we celebrate the feast day of St Mary of the Cross, Mary Mackillop. St Mary is significant to Australians as she is our first saint. She founded the Sisters of St Joseph and brought Catholic education to many poor and disadvantaged rural children. During her life St Mary Mackillop lived through many difficulties however she always had faith and trust in God. She said, “Have courage, trust in God, St Joseph and our Blessed Mother; and you need have no fear.” How can we take inspiration from Mary Mackillop and trust in God?

Mary MacKillop Prayer

Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in
bringing hope and encouragement
to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
With confidence in your generous providence and through the
intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop
we ask that you grant our prayers.
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so
that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage,
trust and openness.
Ever generous God hear our prayer.
We ask this through Jesus Christ.
Amen.
Mary MacKillop
Amen
Assemblies
At this stage all assemblies have been postponed in line with COVID regulations. Once restrictions ease we will look at reallocating classes who have missed their assembly time.

Parish Mass, Priest Visit and Reconciliation
This week Kindergarten will attend Parish Mass, Year 6B will attend Reconciliation in St Joseph’s Church and Year 1 will have a visit from one of our priests to discuss The Bible.

Kindergarten Retreat - Apple of My Eye
It was so wonderful spending time with the Kindergarten students last Friday at their Retreat. We had a wonderful session exploring how God and their own families see them as precious and special. We discussed how their families and God see them as the apple of their eye.

Have a peaceful week

Brooke Church
Religious Education Coordinator
We had a fabulous time at our Kindy retreat, celebrating being the Apple of God's eye. The children were so enthusiastic and really got involved in all the activities. A huge thank you to Mrs Church for organising such a special morning and to our wonderful Kindy teachers for joining in the fun. Thank you also, to the families that spent time with their child and made their family tree to be used as part of our prayer focus. Don’t they look fabulous? We are part of God’s family, McAuley’s family and our own family.

**Father’s Day Activity** - With Father’s Day just around the corner, I am asking you to please send in a photo of your child/ren with their Dad, Grandad, Godfather or significant Father figure. I will collate them all and display them for our school community to enjoy. If you are happy to share a photo please email it to m.ryan@bth.catholic.edu.au. With your photo please put your child/ren’s name, school and one sentence about what makes the man in your child’s life so special. The deadline for the photos to be sent to me is Tuesday 24th August, 2021. I can’t wait to see them! Below is an example: Emily Ryan, Catherine McAuley School. I love my Grandad because he is funny, kind, loving and we go on lots of holidays as a whole family- he’s the best!

Take care

Liss
MERIT AWARDS - Wk3 Term 3

Maddy Teideman
Sophie Williams
Jack Baker
Bella Crombie
Nellie Cain
Hannah Hunt
Alan Thomas
Harry Callaghan
Charlie Baker
Annie Davis
Macklin Everett
Meeka Jaye-Clark
Josephine Cardiff
Josh Harris
Darcey Biddle
Belvia Bryant
Alex Fraser
Sienna Vaughan
Levi Zinga
Mackenzie Evans

Grace Diduszko
Chloe Hamilton
Axel Stewart
Maddison O'Brien
Deacon Bevan
Barnaby Luelf
Meah Jithesh
Nicolas Echeverri
Ruby Judge
Bronx Rolton
Dominic Gama
Martha Qaqos
Bridget Waters
Elsie Dunn
Max Zocco
Matilda Spicer
Natalie Gavin
Blake Durack
Ruby Davison
Mason Everett
Layla Williams

Hudson West
Alex Thomas
Lenci Zinga
Matthew Holden
Lenya Miller
Landon Crosariol
Ava Keevil
Audrey Horan
Chloe Gillespie
Marshall Smith
Cienna Taylor
Jessica Williams
Annabelle Ferrier
Brooke Vaughn
Michael Tang
Cooper Baird
Monique Vardanega
Will Boyd
Wil Kennedy
Julia Loecker

Congratulations!
Happy Birthday to the following students who have had birthdays this week: and last week: Alexander Fraser, Joshua Newman and Phoenix Zinga.

BIRTHDAY CAKES AT SCHOOL
A reminder to all parents that children’s birthdays and especially birthday parties remain a private family (not school) event. We also ask that parents do not send in any birthday food (cakes etc) to share with the class.

SPORTS NEWS
Southern Region Athletics - please note this has been cancelled for Thursday 5th August. We will advise details of the new date as soon as it is confirmed.

Polding Cricket and Polding Athletics
unfortunately will NOT occur in Term 3 due to COVID-19 Restrictions.
**Friday 30th July**
Scholastic Book Fair Ends
Kindergarten Retreat - Kenna Hall

Southern Region Athletics - please note this has been cancelled for Thursday 5th August. We will advise details of the new date as soon as it is confirmed.

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**Interesting Fact of the Week**

Lit Olympic torches have flown on planes, stayed alight underwater, and scaled Everest! Some unlit torches have even gone into space, too. Amazing!