The Annual Parent meeting was held last night to discuss fundraising and other parent events in our school. I just wish to inform any new parents that we don’t have a formal P and F as such (so no meetings or dastardly executive positions!) but a tradition of having a wonderful group of enthusiastic and hard working parents from all grades who are prepared to either organise or support any functions that are held. Each grade is allocated a designated fundraiser and that is their only organising responsibility for the year.

The parent group at Catherine McAuley is gaining a fine reputation in being involved in all school events from school and class liturgies to sausage sizzles. As principal, I am acutely aware that parents are very much time poor and in some cases are part of a single parent household so are restricted in time that be given to school events and it is important that family and home time is first priority.

My only wish is that all families support the school in any way possible. Our fundraising is limited and usually optional but we do have increasing costs and parent fundraising contributes to those things in our school that are over and above normal school budget items. It has always been our endeavour to make sure any funds raised by students and parents go directly towards resources for students.

Michael Croke

**Mother Catherine**

*She used often to say that common sense was one of the most necessary qualities for a Sister of our Institute.*

*Catherine McAuley 1778-1841*
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Student of the Week:** Congratulations to the following children who were awarded student of the week: Maddison Lawry, Max Fisher, Roxy MacDouall, Mason Douglas, Domenic Belmonte, Sabella Tyack, Charlotte Lawson, Noah Richards, Prue McAtamney, Connor Vardanega, Kaitlyn Edwards, Chelsea Finley, Charli Hobbs, Ann Rose, Abigail Paul, Olivia Collins, Jamie Merchant, Ruby Duffy, Tara Yeghayan & Dominic Gibson.

**Diocesan Swimming Carnival:** Congratulations to all our competitors in the Diocesan swimming Carnival last Tuesday. Once again all students swam very well many producing personal bests, however the competition is very strong at this level. Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the Polding Swimming Carnival on Friday 28th March in Sydney:

- Lucy Nagle – Individual Medley, 100M Freestyle, 50M Freestyle, 50M Breaststroke, 50M Backstroke
- Arnie Tancred – Junior 50M Butterfly
- Senior Girls Relay – Lucy Nagle, Phoebe Showell, Audrey Madigan & Jessie Dean
- Junior Girls Relay – Alliyah Bush, Emma Kennedy, Meg Lenehan & Emily Bekavac

What an achievement!

**Whole School Assembly:** Year 6 will host and present work at the whole school assembly in Kenna Hall on Friday 7th March commencing at 12.00pm. All welcome.

**Peer Support Training:** The Year 6 children were trained in Peer Support last Thursday & Friday. A big thank you to the Year 6 teachers who trained the children in the necessary skills to run Peer Support next term. The second day was held at Burrendong with the children participating in some great activities to help build communication and team building skills.

**Year 7 - 2014 James Sheahan Orientation Program:** The Orientation for our Year 6 children into High School will begin on Tuesday 18th March when they spend the day at Sheahan. There is a Meeting for parents at 7.00pm in the Mercy Hall on Tuesday 18th March.

Steve Maguire

**INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK**

The muscles that close a crocodile’s jaws exert a force equivalent to a truck falling off a cliff, but the muscles that open them are so weak that they can be kept shut by a rubber band.
Ash Wednesday: Today we celebrated the feast of Ash Wednesday. Today marks the beginning of the Church’s Season of Lent. Lent is a wonderful time when we have the opportunity to really reflect on ourselves, and our relationship with God. For the next forty days we travel with Jesus as he prepares for His death on the Cross, and His triumph over sin through His Resurrection. Lent is a time when we are asked to do something that helps us to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for all. Often we are asked to ‘give up’ something for Lent. Perhaps this year, we could ‘take up’ something for Lent – take up visiting the sick, or take up praying for those who need it, or become more active in helping those in our society that need help. Perhaps we could reflect on “What is going to bring me closer to God” this Lent, and follow that path. A reminder that it is expected that adult Catholics abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, as a form of penance.

Project Compassion: It is obvious that children have been really involved in learning about Project Compassion this year, as I have already received several full mission boxes! Thank you to those who have sent these in. As Lent will take us up to our next holidays, perhaps those who still have their boxes at home could continue to look for opportunities to give money to this wonderful project. This year the theme for Project Compassion comes from St Johns Gospel: (John 10:10) “Have life, and have it to the full”. By donating to Caritas Australia, through Project Compassion, we have a wonderful opportunity to help bring about ‘fullness of life’ to so many who are so vulnerable.

Catholic Schools Week: Next week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. We will be celebrating with a Whole School Mass next Wednesday (14th March) at 10.00am. Everyone is very welcome to join us for this special celebration, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Wishing you a great week,

God Bless,

Robyn Petty
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

ICT at Catherine McAuley

At Catherine McAuley School we recognise the need for all students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies now and into their future. To support this we will be undertaking “Cybersafety” lessons during allocated Library times this term for students in Years 3 to 6. These sessions will explicitly teach students about safe and responsible online behaviours and raise students’ awareness of issues such as online privacy and intellectual property including copyright.

Cybersafety is best taught in partnership with parents/guardians. To support this we will be offering a parent information evening on Thursday 3rd April at 7pm in The Sr Clare Murphy Room. This session will be an opportunity for teachers to provide information about the roll out of email accounts for students in Years 3-6, to demonstrate the educational use of Share Cloud at our school and to re-assure parents of the procedures and policies put in place by the school. The information evening will also include a short review of The Welfare and Discipline Policy, particularly information regarding recent amendments.

Wet Weather at Byng St

Because of the nature of the older building at Byng St, wet days cause much congestion as parents pick up children and teachers attempt to move children to buses safely. Last week’s wet weather demonstrated the difficulties faced by students, parents and teachers. A big thank you to all parents for last weeks management of the trying conditions.

Children were moved quickly and safely to parents or to buses. Just a reminder of the protocols in place to manage wet afternoons at Byng St: Parents waiting for children remain outside at the back of the building and teachers will direct your children to you. Year 1 children assemble for parents in the back glassed area and Kindergarten students assemble in the KM classroom. Please do not wait in the front glassed area or use the front doors as this blocks the access to buses.

Clare Miller

3A CLASS NEWS

We’ve had a fantastic beginning to Year 3, completing lots of really impressive art work, recount writing and experiments to mention a just a few things. Here’s a little sample of how clever we are.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swimming Carnival Recount.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Thursday the 20\text{th} of February, Catherine McAuley had their school swimming carnival. First mum dropped me off. I had a little play then we lined up in our class line. I got marked off the roll. After that we got on the bus with 6P and the year 2’s. We got off the bus at the Orange Aquatic Centre. We walked up to the grandstand. I saw Dane, Cruz and Tallis, some of my best friends. After a while I got hungry and I shared some snakes then we made up some funny jokes. After a while it was my race. I was swimming in the 50 metres breaststroke- the slowest heat. I came last but I still got one point for my house team. Then my mum came to see how I went. She gave me two dollars to spend at the tuckshop. I bought a wizz-fizz then I cheered on for my team- “Let's go Kabbarli!” then I had my lunch. I had a chicken, lettuce and mayo sandwich. It was delicious. After the relays it was time to go. We got on the bus with 5H and when we got back to school, we had a bit of free time. When the bell rang I went home. It was the best first swimming carnival.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Will Warner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In science we have been looking at “Plants in Action”. We planted broad-bean seeds in a cup with cotton wool to see if they might grow. We have been very excited to watch their progress. Here’s two photos of how they’re going.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charlie Bevan</th>
<th>Emily Caulfield</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We are also very talented artists in 3A. Here are some self-portraits made with crayons and paper-chipped mosaics.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Trish Aumuller—Class Teacher
ATHLETIC FIELD FINAL EVENTS

Athletic Field Final events will be held on the following dates. Children wishing to compete in these events should bring sports clothes to change into on the day (please don't forget runners).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>Thursday 6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss</td>
<td>Thursday 13th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shot Put</td>
<td>Thursday 20th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>Tuesday 25th March</td>
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MINNI VINNIES

On Tuesday, the 25th February, Mini vinnies held a games session in the Sr Clare Murphy room, during second half lunch, to welcome the new children to Catherine McAuley. We played a few games such as Twister, 4 in a row, Battleships, Chinese checkers, Draughts, and Break the safe! It was great to have the opportunity to meet the new students and they had fun mixing with students from lots of different classes.

We hope that they enjoy their time at Catherine McAuley and that they now have a lot more friends to chat with on the playground!

Tara (President) and Sascha (Vice President) from Yr 6

LIBRARY

Book Club

Our first Book Club for the year is being sent out this week. The brochures contain books suitable for all reading levels as well as some interesting parent titles.

If your child is wishing to order from Book Club please fill in all the details on the appropriate order form being sure to include your child's name and class. Place the order form in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class and the amount enclosed.

Please remember that ordering from Book Club is optional. However, if you are wishing to place an order it needs to be returned to school by Thursday, 13th March.

Catherine Bishenden & Elizabeth Sergeant

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have had birthdays this week: Koby Reid, Jessie Bush, Kiara Scrimshaw, Seth Vardanega, Ava Westgeest, Max Vaughan, Jack Dean, Chloe Cox, Jaxon Guyer, Braiden Jordan, Domenic Belmonte, Jorja Mascord

TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 10th March to Friday 14th March, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>9.30am—11.30am</th>
<th>11.30am—2.00pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>K Daniel</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>B Bennett, E Gavin,</td>
<td>M Vaughan, L Johnson, F Schofield,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R Matthews</td>
<td>S Martyr (12:45—1:45pm)</td>
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HOCKEY

If you would like to play HOCKEY and have missed sign on, forms and information are available on our website

http://ja3358.wix.com/cymshockeyorange or phone Helen 0423 877 126

Age divisions for boys and girls - U9, U11, U13, U15 & U18