FROM THE PRINCIPAL

McAuley School
Welcome BBQ/Sunday Brunch
Sunday 12th February 2017
10:30am to 12 noon
Free Sausage sizzle
Bring your own drinks & chairs

Please return the Sunday Brunch tear-off section for catering numbers. Thank you!

Michael Croke

The simplest and most practical lesson I know... is to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow. Let us take one day only in hands, at a time, merely making a resolve for tomorrow, thus we may hope to get on taking short, careful steps, not great strides.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
McAuley School Rules:

**FAITH:** God’s rules are: 1. Love God
2. Love others – Treat others how you want them to treat you.

**JUSTICE:** - Make positive choices

**RESPECT:** - Respect yourself, others and the school environment

**SERVICE:** - Help others in our school and the world

**LEARNING:** - Learn and let others learn

Focus for the Week: “Greet people appropriately”
In class and at school this week we will remind all in our school community of the importance of greeting people appropriately. Please help us by talking to your children about the importance of this at home. You may even role play greeting people so your children are confident when they meet different people. It is important to realise that we may change someone’s day simply by smiling and greeting them warmly.

**McAuley Swimming Carnival:** The McAuley Swimming carnival will be held at the Orange Aquatic Centre this 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.**

If you are able to help and haven’t been allocated a job please see me on the day and we will organise something.

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

**Parent Teacher Information Evenings:** Thank you to the parents who came to the Year 2 – Year 6 Parent Teacher Evening last night and a reminder that the Kindergarten Parent Teacher Evening is on tonight (Tuesday) and the Year 1 Parent teacher evening is on tomorrow, Wednesday 8th February.

| Year 1 | Wednesday 8th February 2017 | 6:30pm | Year 1 Classrooms |

**Polding Summer Sports Trials:** We wish Lucy Cook (Basketball) and Will Rodwell (Cricket) the best of luck this Friday when they travel to Newcastle for the Polding Summer sports trials. At a later date Molly Dean, Hope Gibson, Jack Dean, Cruz Jordan (touch) will compete in the Polding Touch Trials.

**Protected Learning Time:** It is wonderful to walk around our school during Protected Learning Time (9.00am – 11.00am Monday to Thursday) and see the uninterrupted focus on learning. The high expectations on students who are working at their individual level is obvious as is the variety of activities, engagement of students, teachers and student assistants. Last week I had the opportunity to be involved in lessons with the Kindergarten children. The Kindergarten teachers are doing an amazing job with these excited children eager to learn at “big school”. This week I will work with the Year 1 children. I look forward to learning with Year 1 and if the story writing we did with 1B yesterday is any indication it will be another inspiring experience in the classroom.

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

Steve Maguire
Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time: The Church is in Ordinary Time at the moment, leading up to Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday will be on 1st March. This weekend the Gospel focuses on relationships, with God and with other people. Jesus tells his disciples to make peace with anyone who is upset or angry with them. All relationships bring challenges and we need to work on all our relationships in order to make them profitable and peaceful. When relationships are strained, the power of prayer can help. Praying often brings a sense of peace and wisdom. Perhaps this week we could spend some time offering a prayer for someone who we find challenging!

Opening School Mass: We will celebrate our Opening School Mass tomorrow, Thursday, 9th February at 10:00am. This is a very special Mass, as we join together to begin our new school year and acknowledge our new School Leaders. Our Captains will be presented with their badges and our Year 6, as leaders of our school, will make their Pledge of Leadership. Parents, friends and families are very welcome to join us for this and all School Liturgies and celebrations. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sacramental Dates for 2017: Please take note of the following dates for the Sacraments and Sacramental Parent Meetings for this year. All parents are expected to attend the Parent Meeting, as unlike previous years, the enrolment forms for the Sacrament will be given out at these meetings and not at school.

First Communion: (for children in Year 3 or older)
Parent Meeting: Wednesday 26th April 7pm at St Mary’s Church, Park St.

Confirmation: (for children in Year 6 or older)
Parent Meeting: Thursday 8th June 7pm at St Mary’s Church, Park St.

First Reconciliation: (for children in Year 2 or older – must have made this Sacrament before they can make First Communion)
Parent Meeting: Wednesday 11th October, 7pm at St Mary’s Church, Park St.
Sacrament: 14th and 15th November 2017

Liturgies and Masses for this Term: Here are the Liturgies and Masses for this term. Fr Greg is keen to meet the children and spend a little time in each class, so one of the priests will be visiting each grade throughout this Semester (Terms 1 & 2) as well as conferring the Sacrament of Reconciliation to each class.

Week 2: Opening School Mass – 10:00am on Thursday 9th February (Whole School)
Week 5: Ash Wednesday Mass – Wednesday 1st March @ 12:15pm. (Whole School)
Week 6: Catholic School’s Week Mass - Wednesday 8th March @ 12:15pm. (Whole School)
Week 7: Year 2 Grade Liturgy –Wednesday 15th March @ 12:45pm (in the Church)
Week 8: Year 1 Grade Liturgy – Wednesday 22nd March @ 12:45pm (in the Church)
Week 9: Year 6 Grade Mass – Wednesday 29th March @12:30pm (in the Church)
Week 10: Holy Week and Easter Liturgy – Thursday 6th April (time & venue to be confirmed)

Wishing you a great week,
God Bless,
Robyn Petty
BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week:
Angus MacDouall, Ronan O'Donnell, Archie Markwick, Max Plokstys, Michelle Hayes, Cleo McGinley, Cooper Murray, Frankie Downey, Micaela Pantoja, Isabella Budworth, Jack Petty, Charlotte Lawson & Eliza Mackin.

TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2017

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Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942

LIBRARY

All classes have commenced Library lessons, including Kindergarten, who were very excited to be visiting the Library for the very first time. Borrowing has also commenced this week for Year 1 to Year 6. **Kindergarten will begin borrowing in Term 2.** Grades from Year 1 to Year 6 are encouraged to borrow each week and return their books regularly to the library. With thousands of books to choose from, it is a great opportunity to read and discover many titles and authors on offer. We are very lucky at Catherine McAuley to have so many beautiful and interesting books to borrow.

Could each student please remember to bring along their library bag each week to their library lesson that is listed below. **Kindergarten students will be issued with a library bag in Term 2.**

- **Monday**: KW, 2J, 2L, 6P
- **Tuesday**: 1W, 3S, 5F, 5C
- **Wednesday**: 3H, 4M, 5L, 6T
- **Thursday**: 1B, 3A, 4B, 6H
- **Friday**: KS, KD, 1P, 2C, 4G

I'm looking forward to a year of sharing books and reading with your child.

Catherine Bishenden

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

Orangutans like playing on iPads, but gorillas don’t.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week:
**What is My Child Learning?**

Your child is learning that you need to use your eyes, ears and brain when you focus attention on something. Your child is also learning how to make an ‘attent-o-scope’ to help focus attention.

**Why is This Important?**

Being able to focus attention helps children be better learners. It helps them ignore distractions and focus on what is important in class.

**Ask your child:**

**Can you show me how to make and use an attent-o-scope?** (Follow your child's directions.)

**What words do you use to turn on your attent-o-scope?**

Possible answers: Focus, listen, pay attention, look carefully.

**Practise at Home**

Before giving important information, let your child know that you really need his or her focused attention. Suggest that your child use the attent-o-scope.

For example:

**This is important. You may need your attent-o-scope.** Pause for your child to focus. **I am working this afternoon, so Aunt Janet will pick you up from school today.**

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**ORANGE CYM S JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB**

**2017 Soccer Registrations are now open**

**INFO DAY: 18 & 25 February**

**VENUE: St Mary’s School**

**TIME: 11am - 1pm**

**CONTACT: Peter - 0402 896 708 or registrar@cymsjuniorsoccerclub.com**

Information also available at: [www.facebook.com/OrangeCymsJuniorSoccerClub](http://www.facebook.com/OrangeCymsJuniorSoccerClub)

Register online now at [www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au)
**Ukelele lessons**

If you are interested in learning the Ukulele at Catherine McAuley this year then this is your lucky day! There are a few conditions…

*Must have your own instrument. Can purchase them from Lander’s music shop in Orange. $35 each

*Be in a class from Years 3-6.

*Not already in a music group in the school i.e. guitar or band, as it opens up places for other students.

*Classes will take place on Tuesdays, second half lunch times, in the library. Need to be available at this time.

*Return permission slip to either Mrs Bishenden or Mrs Mulligan. Only 10 places to be filled so get your applications in early.

Yours in a bit of fun with music,

Anne Mulligan & Catherine Bishenden

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**Catherine McAuley Catholic Primary School**

**Ukelele Lessons**

I give permission for my child _____________________ in class ________ to participate in Ukelele lessons at school. My child has a ukulele to start the lessons in Weeks 3 or 4.

Signed ______________________________________
5th February 2017

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I write to you as the final hearing involving the Catholic Church at the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse commences on February 6, 2017.

For the victims and survivors, for the Catholic community and for many in the wider Australian community, this hearing may be a difficult and even distressing time, as the Royal Commission reviews the evidence it has already received and seeks to understand why and how this tragedy has occurred.

Deeply mindful of the hurt and pain caused by abuse, I once again offer my apology on behalf of the Catholic Church. I am sorry for the damage that has been done to the lives of victims of sexual abuse. As Pope Francis said recently, ‘it is a sin that shames us’.

Over the next three weeks, evidence presented during the Royal Commission hearings will be analysed, statistics about the extent of abuse will be made public and the way forward will be explored. Many of our bishops and other Catholic leaders will appear before the Royal Commission. They will explain what the Church has been doing to change the old culture that allowed abuse to continue and to put in place new policies, structures and protections to safeguard children.

Pope Francis has urged the whole Church to, ‘find the courage needed to take all necessary measures and to protect in every way the lives of our children, so that such crimes may never be repeated’.

Throughout the coming weeks, I want to assure you of my thoughts and prayers. I encourage you to turn in prayer to the one who is always ready to listen: Jesus Christ, who brings healing and hope

Yours in Christ,

Fr Paul Devitt
Vicar General