FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Pure & Good

How silently and brilliantly the lamp in the Sanctuary burns ... when the oil is pure and good; it is only when it is otherwise that it twinkles and makes noise.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
**Cross Country:** The McAuley Cross Country was held today Wednesday 6th April at Elephant Park. Successful runners will represent McAuley at the Diocesan Cross Country at Coolah on Tuesday 3rd May. Thank you to Mr Gough for organising this event.

**ICAS Tests:** As in previous years, students will be able to nominate and sit the ICAS tests for Mathematics and English. Catherine McAuley will offer students the opportunity to sit the English Tuesday 2nd June and Mathematics Tuesday 16th August. A note will come home next term asking for nominations and payment for children wishing to sit these external tests. The cost will be $9.00 per test.

**Peer Support Training:** A big thank you to the Year 6 teachers, Mrs Lindsay & Mr Jennings for Training the Year 6 children as Peer Support Leaders. A big Thank you to Mr Hudson for organising the first day at Burrendong. The children were extremely well behaved and enthusiastic. I'm sure they will be great leaders. We are planning to run Peer Support in Term 2 on Tuesday afternoons. The plan would be to introduce groups to each other in Weeks 1 and or 2 (after they are finalised) the program should run from Week 3 - Week 10.

**Diocesan Spelling Bee:** A child from each grade in Years 3 to Year 6 will represent McAuley at the Diocesan Finals Day in Wellington on Thursday 26th May (Week 5 Term 2). Sam French Year 6 and Alan Parayil Year 5 have been nominated so far. The Year 3 & Year 4 children will be named early next term.

**WINTER SPORT:** Winter Sport will be in Term 3 this Year. We will confirm dates as they come to hand.

**NSWPSSA Trials:** Congratulations to Knox Gibson who competed at the NSWPSSA trials this week. Knox ran 2nd in the breaststroke event.

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

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**Steve Maguire**

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**EASTER RAFFLE**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our Easter Raffle. Our Kinder parents provided the Easter Eggs for our raffle and a group of parents volunteered their time to make up the prize packages. Thank you to all families who bought tickets. We raised an amazing $2915.00.
Liturgical Celebrations: The term has gone by so quickly, and it has been very busy with many Masses and other Liturgical celebrations. It has been wonderful to see so many parents and families joining us on these occasions, and I congratulate Year 6 on the leadership qualities they have shown, and the excellent example they have set for our Kinder children. Next term we will have more Infants Liturgies, as well as our First Communion celebrations, and we look forward to seeing families and friends at our various celebrations.

Project Compassion: We have been inundated with Project Compassion boxes this week, and I thank you for your generosity towards this very worthy cause. We are in the process of counting the money, but hope to have a cheque to send Caritas very soon. If you have not done so already, could you please send in your Project Compassion Boxes before the end of this week. Once again, thank you for your wonderful generosity and continued support.

Sacramental Program 2016: Early next term we will begin our Sacramental Program for this year. The first Sacrament we will celebrate is First Holy Communion. This will take place at the Parish Masses on the weekend of 4th and 5th June 2016. The Parent Meeting for First Communion will be on Wednesday, 27th April at 7pm in St Mary’s Church. If you have a child in Year 3 or older and you wish them to receive this Sacrament, it is important that you attend this meeting. Please put this date in your diary, as it is in the first week of next term. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Proposed Liturgies for Term Two: Here is our proposed Liturgy timetable for next term.

Week 2:  Friday 6th May: Whole School Mothers’ Day Liturgy 12:15pm
Week 3:  Wednesday 11th May: Year 6 Grade Mass 12:30pm
Week 5:  Sunday 29th May: 5:00pm Parish Mass prepared by McAuley
Week 6:  Wednesday 1st June: Year 3 Reconciliation Mass 12:15pm

Saturday & Sunday 4th & 5th June: First Communion
Week 7:  Wednesday 8th June: Year 4 Grade Mass 12:30pm
Week 8:  Wednesday 15th June: Whole School First Communion Thanksgiving Mass: 12:15pm
Week 9:  Wednesday 22nd June: Year 2 Grade Liturgy 12:30pm

Wishing you a lovely holiday,
God Bless,
Robyn Petty
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

Some Holiday activities for you to do.

1. Make an ant farm.
2. Bake cupcakes.
3. Make a cubby house under the table.
4. Invite friends over to play.
5. Make homemade pizza.
6. Dance to music.
7. Make an indoor obstacle course with cushions, pillows, boxes, chairs and blankets.
8. Ice biscuits.
9. Play dress ups and do a play.
10. Hang a sheet from a tree to make an outside cubby house.
11. Eat lunch outside.
12. Do general gardening or plant a vegetable or herb garden.
13. Make an outdoor obstacle course.

I’m sure there are many more things to do. Just remember PLAY is also an essential part of learning as it gives students and adults the opportunity to:

- Develop physical skills.
- Develop cognitive concepts.
- Enhance memory skills as well as their attention span.
- Develop language skills.
- Develop social skills, and many more.

So enjoy the holidays and have fun. See you all safe and well in Term 2.

Belinda Forbes

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: St Mary’s Church 5:00pm
Sunday: St Joseph’s Church 8:00am
          St Mary’s Church 9:30am
          St Joseph’s Church 5:00pm

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

There’s a carpet shop in Dublin called ‘Lino Ritchie’.
BAND REHEARSALS: Due to the Year 3 excursion this week, Band rehearsals will swap.
Senior Concert Band will rehearse on THURSDAY 2:10pm
Training Band will rehearse on FRIDAY 2:10pm

SCHOOL OPENING: The Concert Band performed beautifully at last week's Official School Opening and are to be commended on their efforts. It was a marvellous achievement to have a piece ready for performance so early in the year. Congratulations children and our thanks to Mr Love.

EARLY NOTICE: Next term the Concert Band and Senior Choir members will be participating in the James Sheahan Catholic High School's "Music Manifesto" on 24th & 25th June.

Anne Allan

WANTED - FOOTBALL BOOTS and HEADGEAR (in good condition)

If you have any size football gear that is in reasonable condition, can it be sent into school via the front office. We 'The Carpenter Family' will be travelling to Fiji for an inter club Rugby experience with Orange City in early July. As apart of the experience the group donates as much as they can to the different areas that they visit and with the recent tragedy that they have experienced it is needed even more, now.

The teams that my son Sean plays against do not have a lot of basic equipment and simple things like boots and headgear are just not affordable for most.

Any donations will be passed on to the various areas that we visit.

Jennene Carpenter

BIRTHDAYS


TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Tuesday 26th April to Friday 29th April 2016

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Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942
Professional Sharing

Professional sharing is an important aspect of a Professional Learning Community. It gives teachers the opportunity to share their knowledge, skills and ideas with colleagues. This week in our Monday Staff Meeting teachers shared formative assessment samples along with ideas around how they collect and record student data from these assessments. Formative assessment is assessment which is used by teachers to decide what learning has taken place and what learning needs to take place.

Samples varied across the grades. Year 6 are currently using Mathletics tasks as a means of formative assessment while other grades are using mini whiteboards for students to display their responses and post it note exit assessments. Many grades have adopted the use of I can statements which enable students and teachers to explicitly record the progression of their learning.

I CAN STATEMENTS

Mini Whiteboards

Post it note exit strategy

Our meeting concluded with an important statement from Mr Croke about the current culture of our school. Mr Croke stated that presently we are experiencing a cultural shift within our school. Students are no longer valued as merely receptors of knowledge but now actively engage in constructing learning. This takes place because in our classrooms students are no longer afraid to make mistakes or to seek assistance from the classroom teacher.

Camille Da Silva Tavares