FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you to all who helped make Carols in the Courtyard such a special night.

Michael Croke

May God bless and animate you with His own divine spirit, that you may prove it is Jesus Christ you love and serve with your whole heart.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

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: No Playing in toilets – Use toilets appropriately

This week’s rule comes from JUSTICE it is important that children do not hang around or play in toilets. Unsupervised areas are the areas where things can often go wrong in a school. If a child sees anyone acting inappropriately in the toilets or a mess in the toilets they must report this immediately to a teacher. Children must use the toilets appropriately and vacate them as quickly as they can.


Change to Staffing for 2017: As you will read in this week’s newsletter it is with sadness that we say farewell to Mrs Clare Miller at the end of 2016. Mrs Miller has had a huge effect on the formation of Catherine McAuley as an outstanding classroom teacher and as a dynamic leader in her role as Primary Coordinator. Mrs Miller has contributed to Catholic Education in Orange for over 20 years. Her dedication, knowledge, expertise, enthusiasm, work ethic, friendly manner and sense of humour will be sadly missed by the McAuley community. We are excited for Mrs Miller and her family as they embark on the next chapter of their lives and we wish them every happiness and best wishes. We are currently in the process of interviewing for a teacher to replace Mrs Miller for 2017 in Year 4. We will announce the successful applicant as soon as possible.

Classes for 2017: Classes have been finalised for 2017. It is important to remember that the McAuley policy is not to change classes once they have been finalised. Parents will be informed of what class their child is in for 2017 when they receive their report for Semester 2. Reports will be sent home on Friday 9th December.

Reports: This Friday 9th December your child(ren) will bring home their report for the Second Semester 2016. Please spend time to go through their report with them and celebrate their success and talk about areas they can focus on in 2017. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR PARENTS TO UNDERSTAND THAT A ‘C’ MEANS THAT THE STUDENT IS WORKING AT EXPECTED LEVEL. ‘A’ & ‘B’ GRADES MEAN THAT THEY ARE WORKING ABOVE THE EXPECTED GRADE LEVEL. ‘D’ & ‘E’ GRADES MEAN THEY ARE WORKING BELOW EXPECTED GRADE LEVEL. It is also critical that children (and parents) understand that we have all been given our own gifts from God and we must celebrate our strengths and abilities whether they are academic, social, physical or emotional.

Year 5 Leadership Morning: Last Thursday our Year 5 children attended a leadership day with the students from James Sheahan. Following the session the Year 5 children voted to short list candidates for Captain & Vice Captain of McAuley for 2017. Year 5 students and teachers then voted from that short list to elect Captains & Vice Captains for next year. It is important to acknowledge that although four children receive official badges ALL YEAR 6 CHILDREN are considered leaders in our school and are expected to set a good example for all. The Captains will be announced at our final school Mass on Wednesday 14th December.

House Captains: Today all children from Year 3 – Year 6 voted for House Captains for 2017. These captains will assist with the running of sports carnivals and also assist the School and Vice Captains. The House Captains will be announced at our final school Mass on Wednesday 14th December at 12:00pm.

Behaviour Management Trial: The new behavior management trial is working well. Children are receiving an immediate consequence for unacceptable behavior. The incident and the consequence is recorded and parents are contacted if the incident is serious or if a child has a number of incidents. Withdrawal from class and the playground for the day (or days) is an option if the behaviour is serious or a child has a number of incidents. A child could miss end of term rewards in consultation with the class teacher, parents would be informed if this was the case.

Steve Maguire
Advent: This weekend we celebrate the third Sunday in Advent, and we light the rose coloured candle as a sign of hope. In this weekend’s Gospel from Matthew we continue to hear from John the Baptist. John is in prison and sends a message to Jesus to ask if he is the one they have been waiting for. The friends return and tell John of the miracles Jesus performed in caring for the poor and the sick and how Jesus preached the Good News about God’s Kingdom. Today Jesus continues His presence and His work through us. Although we all enjoy receiving gifts, especially at Christmas time, our greatest joy comes from giving – and not just in a material sense. Perhaps during this week of Advent you could spend a little time discussing with your family ways that we can be the presence of Jesus today and help those in need.

Christmas Hampers: Thank you so much to those who have sent in items for our annual Christmas Hamper Appeal. Each year we are able to give these items to St Vincent de Paul for them to distribute among our Orange community, helping others to also enjoy this Christmas period. Could I please ask that anyone who has not yet had time to send in an item, please do so. Just one item per child makes a huge difference. Thank you once again for your wonderful generosity.

Year 6 Farewell Mass: Our Year 6 will celebrate their Farewell Mass next Tuesday, 12th December at 6.00pm. This very special Mass will be followed by a celebration in Kenna Hall for our Year 6 students.

School End of Year Mass: Our Whole School End of Year Mass will be next Wednesday, 13th December at 12:00noon. At this Mass we will also announce our Captains for 2017. It has been wonderful having such support from parents, friends and families throughout the year, and we look forward to your presence for our last Liturgical Celebration.

Christmas Mass Times: Dates and times for Christmas Masses and Reconciliation will be sent out next week on a separate flyer. Please take note of these times, as they are slightly different to normal weekend Mass times.

God Bless

Robyn Petty

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

Mexico has a festival where Nativity scenes are carved out of radishes; in 2014, they used 12 tons of them.
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

It is with sadness that I bid farewell to the Catherine McAuley community, for next year at least. I have taken leave for 2017 as my family and I will be relocating to Sydney.

I have been part of the Sacred Heart and then the McAuley family for twenty one years, so the move is a very big change and more than a little sad. I have loved being part of this school and the wider parish. In my time here I have seen enormous change in both education and in the school itself. I have been in the fortunate position to have had the opportunity to lead some of the change and this has been both challenging and enormously rewarding. I want to acknowledge and thank my colleagues who have made this journey with me and I particularly want to send all my best wishes and gratitude to the hundreds of children who enriched my classes over the years.

This school community is special in so many ways. I will miss the staff, the students, the supportive parents and the wider Catholic community who have all touched me and my family immeasurably.

Clare Miller

GIVE DON’T THROW

In 5C we have been discussing how much is wasted at the end of a school year. So many people can use what we throw out. If you’re planning on replacing your pecils, textas, rulers, sharpeners etc for next year please place them in the boxes provided in your grade area. We will sort these and pass what can be reused to children who need them.

By Nida and Emily.

REWARDS DAYS 2016

Rewards Days:
Kindergarten - Tuesday 13th - Kenna Hall
Year 1 - Tuesday 13th - Movies
Year 2 - Tuesday 13th - Movies
Year 3 - Tuesday 13th - Movies
Year 4 - Monday 12th - Movies & Botanic Gardens
Year 5 - Thursday 15th - Blayney Pool
Year 6 - Thursday 15th - Cook Park & slide

TECHNOLOGY AT SCHOOL & CHRISTMAS CHEER

Technology at School: A reminder that students are not to have mobile phones, ipods and other technology at school. If it is necessary that they bring such a device then it is to be given to the class teacher at the beginning of the day and collected at the conclusion of school. Important messages can be delivered via the school office.

Christmas Cheer: We are all getting very excited with Christmas fast approaching. Please do not send candy canes to school as they are often eaten at the wrong time and can lead to arguments in class or on the playground. They can be special treats to share at home.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL MASS

Year 6 Mass & Farewell Thursday 10th December: A reminder to the Year 6 Parents to send in the $25 to help with costs of the evening. A committee of Year 6 parents will be formed to organise the celebration following the Mass. If you indicated that you can help you will be contacted soon. A big Thank you to the Year 5 parents who have offered to help serve and clean up on the night a note will be sent home closer to the date to inform you of the details.
Mini Vinnies will be having their Grand Christmas Book Sale this Thursday 8th December. All books will be $1 and 50c extra for wrapping paper. We hope to see you there! The stall will be in Kenna Hall at lunch time.

By Juliya & Alice.

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week: Finn Littlefield, Mia Milne, Harry Dean, Austin Fitzpatrick, Ethan Wilde, Isabella Cheney, Thomas French, Grace Bjorksten, Liam Fraser, Hollie Lawlor, Cooper Lawry and Macey Lenehan.

Roster—Commencing Monday 12th December to Friday 14th December 2016

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<th>Day</th>
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*12:45-1:45 - S Martyr

Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942

Thank you to all the students and parents who have supported the library this year. The students, for borrowing thousands of books, and the parents that shared these stories and books at home with their children. Thank you to all who utilised Book Club and visited our annual Book Fair as well.

Don't forget to visit the Orange City Library during the holidays and borrow lots of their wonderful resources.

**ALL BOOKS** need to be **RETURNED ASAP** to the library. Books are costly to replace, so it would be great if they were all returned.

**Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2** will leave their Library Bags here at school and they will be passed on to their next class teacher. **All Year 3 to Year 6** children are responsible for taking their Library Bag home, maybe giving it a wash, and finding a safe place for it for next year.

I hope Santa leaves you all a good book to read! That's what I'm wishing for!

Happy reading!

Catherine Bishenden
Wow! McAuley students sure know how to draw a crowd!

HE’S ON THE WAY!