FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I am pleased to report that all tickets in our Rabbitohs raffle have been sold and we are very grateful to those people who bought one of the 20 tickets at $50 each. Obviously the selling point for the tickets was that every cent of the $1,000 raised goes to Ronald McDonald House. I say all of this because I do wish to make comment on the wonderful generosity and compassion that is continually shown by the students from this school, especially towards those who are less fortunate through illness or a life circumstance. I would also say that I see the same qualities shown by the staff formally and informally on many many occasions. This is always done by both groups with minimal fuss. Congratulations to our winner Wally Martyr.

It is most encouraging when we see children so young want to do things for those less fortunate and this also indicates that they are aware and grateful they are in a first world country and a first world town. Sr Catherine McAuley would be indeed proud that as a school we are nurturing hearts as well as heads.

Michael Croke

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Centred in God

We have one solid comfort amidst this little tripping about, our hearts can always be in the same place, centred in God, for whom alone we go forward or stay back.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841

SABBATICAL Week: Next week is the halfway point of the term. As always we don’t have meetings and try to keep extra curricula activities to a minimum. The best part of the SABBATICAL week for many is that there is no homework!

Whole School Assembly: 5L will present their work at the next Whole School Assembly this Friday 12th August commencing at 2:20pm in Kenna Hall. All welcome!

Diocesan Athletics Carnival: Congratulations to the children from McAuley who have been selected to represent the Southern Region at the Bathurst Diocesan Catholic Carnival at Barden Park, North Dubbo next Thursday 18th August. This is a great achievement and we wish all these children the best of luck.

ICAS Tests: Nominations for ICAS Maths & English Tests have closed. The children from Year 3 to Year 6 who nominated for these will sit the Mathematics Test on Tuesday 16th August.

Chess: Thank you to Mrs Anne Mulligan for organising our school chess club. Today the children travelled with Mr Croke to Millthorpe Public School to participate in an inter school chess competition. Thank you to the parents for transporting these children. We wish the children the best of luck.

Reading Fluency: Following visits from Sarah McDonagh all classes are focusing on developing the reading fluency of our students. Many classes are practising reading fluency in class and some grades are sending home activities for homework that will develop reading fluency. The focus on teaching reading skills from Kindergarten to Year 6 is a focus at McAuley.

Netball School’s Cup: Our Year 6 girls competed in the next stage of the School’s Cup Netball today in Orange. Thank you to Mr Hudson for organising this to give the children the opportunity. Thank you to Mrs Sue Dean for coaching the girls at lunch times and on the day. Thank you to the parents who transport and support the girls.

Kindergarten Dance at the Eisteddfod: This Friday we will be represented at the Orange Eisteddfod in Dance by KD. A huge thank you to Mrs Snowden and Mrs Derwin for the time and effort they are putting in to give the children this experience. Good luck KD.

Year 6 Personal Development Evening: Part of the Year 6 Personal Development Program was a Parent and child evening last Monday night. Thank you to the Year 6 Teachers for organising this and providing the children and parents with this opportunity. It is a very important part of the children’s education which we teach with a Catholic perspective.

Illness: We would like to request that if your child is unwell with a temperature, continuous coughing, feeling sick in the tummy, vomiting etc, please keep them at home. We are sending a large number of children home each day with various forms of illness and by sending them to school it is creating a never ending cycle of illness within our school. We do understand how hard it is when parents are working but would appreciate your help in keeping the spread of illness under control.

Steve Maguire
FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

**St Mary of the Cross MacKillop:** Last Monday, 8th August, we celebrated the Feast Day of our very first and only Australian Saint. Mary MacKillop was the founder of the Sisters of St Joseph order, and a remarkable woman. Through unbelievable adversity she travelled the Australian outback to bring education and the gift of faith to the children and families of the land. She died on the 8th August 1909, and was cannonised by Pope Benedict XVI on 17th October 2010. Students spent time on Monday looking at the life of Mary MacKillop, and getting to know our one and only saint a little better. For more information on St Mary MacKillop of the Cross, please visit [www.marymackillopplace.org.au](http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au)

**Confirmation:** Enrolment forms for Confirmation went home with the children in Year 6 last week, and these need to be returned to the Parish House, not the school, by 12th August. The forms are much more detailed this year as the parish is using a new program for data collection. It is important that all details, including Sponsors name and the student’s Confirmation Name are included on this form. If you need any information regarding the reception of this Sacrament, please contact me.

**Jeans for Genes Day:** Thank you so much for the incredible support you gave us last Friday for Jeans for Genes Day! We raised over $800.00, which will go to the Children’s Medical Research Institute to fund research into cures for childhood diseases. Once again, a massive thank you for your amazing support!

**Feast of the Assumption:** Next Monday, 15th August we will be joining St Mary’s School to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption. This is a very important Feast in the Church’s year, and a great celebration of our heavenly mother, Mary. We will be travelling to St Mary’s to join them for Mass at 12.00 noon and stay for lunch and a play before returning to school in time for buses. Permission notes to travel to St Mary’s were sent home yesterday. Could these please be returned before the end of the week. There is no cost involved for this excursion.

**Reconciliation:** Year 4 celebrated the Second Rite of Reconciliation today. This was a lovely service, and a wonderful opportunity for the children to share this special Sacrament of healing. A special thank you to Fr Garry and Fr Ephrem for working with the Year 5 and Year 4 classes over the past two weeks to help them with this Sacrament.

Wishing you a wonderful week, God Bless,

Robyn Petty

**INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK**

The word ‘nuppence’ means ‘no money’.

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**St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

Gracious God,

We thank you for making Mary MacKillop

Strong in faith and conviction.

Inspired by her example

May we, the people of Australia

Endeavour to make our country

A place free of poverty and injustice,

A place of wisdom and learning

Where you are praised in peace and love.

Amen
Welcome to the commencement of our School Representative Council. I am pleased to be assisting them in their journey for the remainder of the year.

**What is an SRC you may wonder?**

An SRC is a group of students in a school elected by their fellow students.

SRC members represent all students in the school and organise ways for students to participate and contribute to their school community.

Our SRC is just beginning to be formed. Our members will be our Class Councillors who have been elected by the students in their class. They are responsible for many jobs within their own classrooms and now they will be able to form a working group for the purpose of the school community.

There are several reasons for having an SRC, and they all have to do with students’ participation in what happens within the school and its community. Firstly, better decisions are made within a school (and elsewhere) if everyone who is affected by those decisions is involved in making them in some way. Students know things that others (teachers, parents, administrators) often don’t - just as teachers and others know things that students may not. Having this knowledge available in the decision-making process will result in a wiser decision. And because students have been involved, it’s more likely that the actions based on those decisions will be more effectively implemented.

Our SCR will be hoping to **SHARE DECISIONS, BUILD COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN AND OUT OF THE SCHOOL, RESPOND TO STUDENTS NEEDS, and BRING ABOUT CHANGE.**

It will be a learning curve for all involved however I look forward to working with such a great group of students on their concerns and sharing their knowledge in the coming weeks.

Belinda Forbes

**Professional Learning Communities**

Our Professional Development Workshop in Week 3 was focused on analysing the NAPLAN Writing data of 2015 for years 3, 5 & 7. We were lucky enough to have as our presenter Mrs Lorraine Short from the Bathurst CEO.

We looked at the marking scores for NAPLAN Writing and looked at relevant English Syllabus pages that focus on:

- Writing to engage the audience
- Writing to develop, enhance and enrich ideas

The staff were able to highlight the areas that need improvement in these areas, across the school, so that they can be a focus for future lessons.

We were also shown teaching strategies for the “Audience” and “Ideas” criteria of the Syllabus from the Smart Data Portal. For example: Writer’s block in the classroom is when the children complain that they do not know what to write. Teachers are advised to select topics that students have some familiarity with or include activities to build knowledge of the topic before expecting students to generate ideas. General strategies that the teacher could use to build this knowledge may include: Read texts, picture books or poems about the topic, interview other people and take notes, watch videos on the topic, complete surveys in class.

Anne Mulligan & Camille da Silva Tavares - *Learning for all ... Expect Inspire Engage*
POP-UP PLAY ITEMS

We are seeking items to add to our Pop-Up Play Area and would be grateful for any donations of the following items that you may have at home but no longer use. Items can be sent with your child or left at the School Office: Milk crates, cake tins or muffin trays, plastic kitchen ware, wooden or plastic play food.

LIBRARY

We will be celebrating Book Week 2016 in Week Six of this term. The theme this year is "Australia: Story Country" which involves, among other things, our story as a country and exploring stories fictional and non-fictional about Australia. The students will also be reading and exploring the shortlisted titles and deciding which books will be the winners. Have a look at the following website to see the full shortlist of books and other information about Book Week. https://cbca.org.au/book-week-2016

To help us celebrate books and reading, I am asking the students to DRESS UP ON WEDNESDAY 24th AUGUST as either a character from any story (eg Harry Potter, The BFG, Rainbow fairy) or a character from an Australian story (eg Ned Kelly, Captain Cook, Banjo Patterson, Blinky Bill, Possum Magic etc). Simple costumes are always the best, remembering the children will be wearing them all day. Please also remember that it may be cold on the day and to wear closed-in shoes. If you are stuck for an idea please don't hesitate to ask me.

Thank you

Catherine Bishenden

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week: Brooklyn Ryan, Georgie Halls, Eliana Belmonte, Jack Martyr and Chloe Johns.

TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 15th August to Friday 19th August 2016

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<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>S Bohringer</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>T Scott-Robertson</td>
<td>L O’Keefe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>K Callaghan / P Taberner</td>
<td>P Crain / E Kingham / S Rowland</td>
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Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942
CHESS CLUB

Sixteen children from Catherine McAuley Chess Club participated in an interschool NSW Junior Chess Competition - Orange Zone. On Wednesday 3rd August they played four rounds of chess at Orange Christian school. We entered 1 championship team, 1 intermediate team and 2 rookie teams. The children played with great concentration and true sportsmanship. It was wonderful to see the children mixing with students from Orange Anglican Grammar, Orange Christian School, St Mary's Orange, Millthorpe Public School, Kinross Wolaroi, Orange East Public and Blayney Public School.

Today is the second day of the competition which will be held at Millthorpe Public School. The final results will be known at the end of today's competition.

Thankyou to all children involved as you were such excellent representatives of Catherine McAuley.

Anne Mulligan

MCAULEY DINNER FUNDRAISER

We would like to thank the undermentioned sponsors of our McAuley Dinner for their support. The donations provided were greatly appreciated.

Leonard’s Chicken
Highland Heritage Estate
McArdle’s Carpet Clearning Services
Duntryleague Golf Club
Mane Man’s Barbershop
Sydney Swans
Ruby Hill Equine
The Wykes Family
Wentworth Golf Club
Orange City Centre Pharmacy
Office Works
Turners Vineyard
Petries Mitre 10
Joes Mows
Bensons Café
Studio Desire Hair Design
Maria Schmich
Iris Patch Gift Shop
Flipout Orange
Blooms The Chemist - Orange
Kelly’s Rugby Hotel
Foxy Locks By Bec
Emu’s Rugby Club
Q Office Furniture
Collins Booksellers - Orange
Fox & Co Hotels
Coffee Club
Village Coffee Shop
Pee Wee’s Playcentre
The Ziola Family
Summer Centre Quality Meats
Phys X Pilates
Chemist Warehouse - Orange
The Hotel Canobolas
Toby Tancred Solicitors
Nick Nagy Concreting
Carpet Choice Flooring by Bel Air
Twisted River Wines
Crown Nails & Beauty
Harris Farm Markets
Pete’s Car Wash
Sports Power Orange
Master Antenna Systems
Orange City Council
Orange Tenpin Bowl
Just Cuts
Liquorland
Odeon 5 Cinema Orange
Sportsmans Warehouse
The White Place
The Beekeepers Inn
Neo Nails
Priceline Pharmacy
Ashcrofts Supa IGA