FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As the end of the year approaches (yes, next month is December!) we are in the throes of welcoming our new Kindergarten class for 2016. They will indeed be a very "historical" class as they will be the first class at Catherine McAuley to commence schooling in the same building in which they will finish. I hope that this is a metaphor for how they will feel during their time here; that everyone looks after and cares for each other no matter what age and stage. As I have mentioned many times the kindergarten children and families have the same fears and anxieties and expectations as the class of 1916! Children and parents want to be happy and enjoy school and we hope at Catherine McAuley we can offer that experience. Within that we have high expectations in all areas of the school landscape.

On similar matters all parents and family members are invited to an open afternoon on Thursday November 19th from 3:15pm until 4:00 to view our newly refurbished premises. I’m sure all teachers and students will take great pride in showing off our new house!!

Michael Croke

Kinder 2016 Orientation Days

Friday 13th November 9:30am - 11:00am
Friday 20th November 9:30am - 11:00am
Friday 27th November 9:30am - 11:00am

Cheerfulness

A Religious should endeavour always to have a cheerful countenance and a manner equally free from restraint and levity.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
Student of the Week: Congratulations to the following children who were awarded student of the week: Lily Burns, Samantha Stiller, Cory Griffiths, Ruby Kind, Beau Jeffery, Tully Livingstone, Brydon Sherwood, Eve Genrich, Charlie Westgeest, Isabella Budworth, Farrah Gaff, Charlotte George, Chloe Jacques, Oliver Connaughton, Isaac Sewak, Malachi Collins, Isaac Rodd, Kali Karamanolis.

Year 2 Assembly: The next Whole School Assembly will be organised by Year 2 Friday 13th November commencing at 12:00 noon in Kenna Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Staffing For 2016: We are currently working with the Bathurst CEO to finalise our staffing for 2016. As soon as we are in a position to do so we will announce the teachers and grades for 2016 in a coming newsletter.

Term 4 Hat Policy: Children must wear a “SCHOOL HAT” hat during Term 4 or stay in the shade during any play time. Children in Kindergarten, Year 1 & Year 2 without a hat will stay under the COLA. Year 5 & 6 children without a hat will sit in front of the Year 5L & 5H classrooms undercover and Year 3 & 4 children without a hat will sit under the “big tree” or stay under the shade cloth in “Area D” on the Byng St site.

Morning & Afternoon Routines:

Morning Routine:
Please note that the gates on Byng St will not be open until 8:35am when the teacher arrives on duty. If children arrive earlier than 8:35am they are to enter through the gate between Kenna Hall and the school. The area in front of Area A is a no parking area which allows it to be drop off zone.

Wet Weather and Afternoon Routines:
If it is raining in the afternoon the following applies:

Hill St Pick up: The children wait in the infants undercover area near Area A. Parents walk in and pick them up. If they haven’t been picked up by 3:20pm they are walked to in front of Kenna Hall to wait with the bus children.

Bus Children: Early bus children are walked to their bus as normal. The later bus children wait in the hallway near the Year 2 exit. They are walked out by the teacher on duty.

Byng St Pick Up children: Wait for the teachers on duty under the cover in front of 5L & 5H. They are walked over as normal by the teachers on duty. Any children who are not picked up immediately wait in the Foyer of the Byng St building.

Year 6 Orientation Visit to James Sheahan: The children from McAuley commencing Year 7 at James Sheahan in 2016 will attend their final orientation tomorrow Thursday 12th November. This visit includes placement tests. There is parent Information Evening commencing at 7.00pm in Mercy Hall on Thursday 12th November as well.

Summer Sports Trials: Congratulations to the twelve children and Mrs Mulligan who represented McAuley at the Summer Sports Trials in Dubbo yesterday. Congratulations to Hope Gibson and Lucy Dean who were successful in making the touch football team for the Diocese.

School Disco: Thank you to the committee of teachers who are organising the McAuley Disco on Thursday 26th November. I’m sure this event will create a lot of excitement in our school!

Continued next page ……. 
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CONTINUED ...

Year 6 Canberra Excursion: The Year 6 teachers and children travelled to Canberra last Thursday and Friday to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The children were extremely well behaved and participated enthusiastically in all activities. They were a pleasure to take and a credit to their families and our school. A big thank you to the teachers Mrs Connor, Mr Sheridan and Mrs Lindsay for the time and effort they put into ensuring the success of the excursion. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families the Australian Government assists with the cost of the excursion under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Out of Bounds: Occasionally balls will be kicked or thrown over the fences surrounding the playground. Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds to get a ball. If a teacher has time they may be able to retrieve it otherwise parents can go and ask the neighbours if they can retrieve it after school. Often the neighbours will throw balls back over the fence or return them.

Rewards Day: As the year draws to an end the teachers are planning an end of year Reward Day to the pool, movies, ten pin bowling or something similar. Any child who has been on a Level 4 OR has received 10 Level 1’s OR 3 Level 2’s during the year will not be eligible to attend the Rewards Day. Rewards are a major part of the Behaviour Management Policy at McAuley. It is important that children are rewarded for displaying the expected behaviour at school.

Before School Routine: A reminder that teachers are busy preparing for lessons before school. This is not the time to come and discuss your child’s progress or concerns you may have with the teacher. If you have something urgent to share with your child’s class teacher it would be appropriate to come to the office and a message can be given to the teacher or an appointment made. By this time of the year all children including Kindergarten children are capable of bringing notes and lunch orders into the class on their own.

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.

Steve Maguire

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Hill Street Pick Up Arrangements

Please note the pick up area for students being picked up from Hill Street will now be in the Infants Undercover area. Children will be sitting on the seats in this area and will be there until 3:20pm. After this time they will be moved to the under cover area in front of Kenna Hall and will wait with children catching buses.

MINI VINNIES TOY SALE

Just a reminder that Mini Vinnies is holding a Toy Sale to raise money for the Missions in Madagascar. We are asking for donations of pre-loved toys to sell. All toys will be sold for $1 each at lunch time on Tuesday 17th November. We ask that any donations of toys are in good used condition (no broken or dirty toys). Please bring all toy donations to 4T or give to a member of Mini Vinnies to store in our room.

Thank you so much for your generosity.

Mini Vinnies Team
FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Remembrance Day: With so much happening at school and the weather a little fickle, we decided to celebrate Remembrance Day a little differently this year. At 11:00am each classroom stopped and participated in a prepared prayer service, which was led over the PA. Each classroom went through the prayer power-point and paused for a minutes silence, honouring all those who have fought for, and continue to serve, our country. Thank you to all involved for a very reverent and respectful service.

First Reconciliation: This week our Year 2 students and several other children throughout the school received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Congratulations to all these students, and to their wonderful teachers who prepared them so well. A special ‘thank you’ to Mrs Brooke Church who in her role of Parish Sacramental Coordinator, has worked hard to make this Sacrament, like all Sacraments in the Parish this year, a smooth and lovely experience for the Candidates and their families.

Mission Money: After an awful lot of counting (with thanks to Ms Annalisa Covelli!) we have raised over $3180.00 from our Mission effort! Thank you so much for your amazing generosity! We will get this money sent through as soon as possible, so that we are able to truly help Catholic Missions do the wonderful job they do. Once again, thank you so much for your fantastic support.

November – the Month of the Holy Souls: The month of November provides a great opportunity for us to remember all those we love, who are no longer with us. The Church honours those whom we have loved, and asks us to pray for their souls. In turn, the Holy souls are able to pray for us. Please take the opportunity to record the names of those whom you have loved and lost in the ‘Book of Remembrance’, which is in each of the Parish Churches. This book is taken up in the Offertory Procession at each Mass during November, and those recorded in the book are prayed for.

Parish Mass Celebration: Last week I advised that The McAuley School Community has once again been invited to assist with a Parish Mass. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, we will now be assisting with Mass on Sunday, 6th December, at St Joseph’s Church at 6:00pm not 29th November as previously advertised. As with the last time we assisted with a Parish Mass, we will be responsible for providing the music and helping with some of the different ministries. I would encourage you once again to please consider attending this Mass and supporting our students, as it was just wonderful to have so many families join with us last time.

Liam Lawton Music Workshop: Today Mrs Trish Aumuller, Miss Ashleigh Van Kemenade and I took several members of the Senior Choir to Bathurst to participate in a wonderful Liturgical Music Workshop. Thank you to the Bathurst Diocese for sponsoring this excellent event!

Christmas Hampers: With Christmas not so far away, we will soon be organising Hampers for those less fortunate than ourselves in our community. Each year we proudly donate many boxes of hamper goods to St Vincent de Paul for them to distribute around our community. This year we hope to once again assist those who find the Christmas Season very difficult. More details regarding hampers will be given next week.

Liturgies and Masses: What a lovely Year Four Mass we had today! Thank you to all who came along today to join Year 4 as they celebrated their Grade Mass. Next Wednesday, 18th November Year 5 will celebrate their Grade Mass, and the following Wednesday 25th November, we will have a whole school celebration in thanksgiving for the Year Two First Reconciliation. As always, families and friends are very welcome to join us for our Liturgical Celebrations. There will be a little party in Kenna Hall after the First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass for the candidates. Parents and families of the candidates are invited to join us to ‘cut the cake’ in Kenna Hall.

Wishing you a wonderful week, God Bless,
Robyn Petty

God your love for me is bigger than the deepest ocean
the highest mountain
the whole Milky Way
the fastest rapids
the widest desert
the fluffiest clouds
the wettest rain.
Please help me to love you more and more in return.
Amen.
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

Kindergarten Orientation

This Thursday evening Catherine McAuley School welcomes the parents of our 2016 Kindergarten class. The Orientation Evening will take place in Kenna Hall at 6:30pm. Families will receive some vital information to assist children to transition from preschool to “big school”. The presentation will provide a taste of the “McAuley way”, particular focus is on the launch of our new learning statement “Learning For All - Expect, Inspire and Engage”.

Over the next three Fridays we will welcome our Kindergarten class for 2016. The children are invited to our school on each of these days between 9:30 am and 11:00 am. They will spend some time with their new teachers and their new classmates and will have the opportunity to visit special places in the school and complete some fun and engaging activities.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome our new Kindergarten students and their families.

The Catherine McAuley Facebook Page

Recently Mrs Annalisa Covelli and I attended an inservice on the benefits and pitfalls of social media within a school environment. Most parents would be aware of the Catherine McAuley School Facebook page. In keeping with the guidelines presented on that day we have made some minor changes to this page. Our page will now mostly be used to showcase and promote the wonderful things that are happening at our school. From time to time we will use it as a forum to provide information but largely the Newsletter is used for this purpose. We do encourage parents to post comments but again we are trying to build a positive school community and the Facebook page is a vehicle for this. It is not a forum for negativity. We welcome diverse opinion at the school however any concerns you have are best raised with the principal or member of the executive rather than in this public forum.

Clare Miller

Professional Learning Communities  Learning for all  EXPECT  INSPIRE  ENGAGE

The staff of Catherine McAuley have developed the above learning statement. The statement articulates our promise for all members of Catherine McAuley Catholic Primary School.

We provide learning at all levels; for our staff and for our students.

We have high expectations for all children. We EXPECT that all children will achieve.

We INSPIRE our children through learning.

And we ENGAGE our children in meaningful learning which will prepare them for their future.

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

2009 was the first year since 1987 composed of four different digits.
TABLE TENNIS

The Crokeson Cup has once again been run at McAuley. The table tennis tournament for Year 6 students saw a term of knock rounds until two finalist emerged.

Both Joshua Karbowiak and Rowan McFarland played extremely well to make the final. After a tense first set in which Joshua won 11-9, he steadied himself against some quality table tennis from Rowan to also win the 2nd set 11-6, making our Champion for 2015 Josh Karbowiak.

LIBRARY

Catalogues for our final Book Club will be going out today. Could all orders please be submitted online or be brought into school by Thursday 19th November. Thank you to all families that have supported Book Club and our Book Fair this year.

In about 3 weeks all borrowing will cease from the library. If there are any long lost library books out there, desperate to be reunited with their book friends on the shelf please send them into school.

Thank you.

Catherine Bishenden

ALL PARENTS AND FRIENDS

ARE INVITED TO AN OPEN AFTERNOON TO VIEW OUR

REFURBISHED CLASSROOMS.

THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER FROM 3:15PM UNTIL 4:00PM

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week: Oliver Taberner, Alix O’Neill, Tobias Telford, Dashiel Bootsma, Eliza Brooking, Nida Rasheed, Prue McAtamney and Heath McAtamney.

TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 16th November to Friday 20th November 2015

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Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942