FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have had a wonderful 2014 with lots of changes within our school from shuffling classrooms, staffrooms and offices to all the wonderful events throughout the year. I would like to wish everyone a very Happy & Holy Christmas. Enjoy your holiday break, and we look forward to coming back refreshed and ready to take on the New Year.

Michael Croke

Jesus

In order to study Jesus Christ, you must render yourself familiar with His meekness, patience, forbearance, charity in word and work, contempt of all earthly distinction, sincerity, obedience, love of prayer, humility, conformity.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Student Of The Week:** Congratulations to the following children who were awarded student of the week: Matilda-Rose Cheney, Alex Campbell, Ruby Draper, Jake McNeill, Cameron Bray, Cameron Crump, Ruby Fischer, Charlie Westgeest, Piper Draper, Henny O’Brien, Natalie Joyce, Claudia Horan, Emmasen Buesnell, Alana Seale, Henry Madigan, Kali Karamanolis, Natalie Karamanolis, Emily Irwin, Coco Gibson, Chloe Kearins & Samantha Medlyn.

**Christian Spirit:** I have been so impressed in the last couple of weeks how a group of Year 4 boys have been helping their mates who have been off the playground due to injury and illness. The compassion, understanding and care they have shown has been amazing. Often we are quick to talk down children of today that they have no respect or they very egotistical and not prepared to put others needs before their own. Thank you boys for restoring my faith in humanity. You have made me smile in a very busy time in the year when we should be focussing on Christmas message and doing things for others. You are great role models. Your parents and school community are very proud of you.

**End of Year 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.

Kindergarten – Friday 28th November at the Botanic Gardens
Year 1 – Year 3 – Thursday 4th - Movies & Adventure Playground
Year 4 – Monday 15th December - Ten Pin Bowling
Year 5 – Tuesday 16th December - Blayney Pool
Year 6 – Tuesday 16th December – Flip Out & Adventure Playground

**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 - Leaders for 2015:** The School Captains, Vice Captains and House Captains will be announced at our final school Mass on Friday 12th December at 12.00pm.

**Year 6 Mass & Farewell Thursday 11th 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 has been 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.

As this is our last newsletter of the year, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday break. Merry Christmas to all!

**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 John we continue to hear from John the Baptist. The Jews, wanting to know why he is baptising people if he is not the messiah, are questioning him. “I baptise with water, but there stands among you the one who is coming after me.” As we draw closer to Christmas, the themes of Advent; anticipation, preparedness and hope, are evident. The celebration of the Nativity is confirmation that, like John, our hope is not misplaced. This weekend’s readings emphasise the joy that lies in the anticipation and expectation of what is coming.

Christmas Hampers: A HUGE thank you to those who sent in items for our annual Christmas Hamper Appeal. The Year 6 students packed the items into boxes ready for Vinnies to collect, and we ended up with over 90 boxes! A rather impressive effort! And, we can rest assured that there will be many families in Orange who can now enjoy this Festive Season, thanks to your wonderful generosity.

Year 6 Farewell Mass: Our Year 6 will celebrate their Farewell Mass this Thursday, 11th December at 6.00pm. This very special Mass will be followed by a celebration in Kenna Hall for our Year 6 students and their families.

School End of Year Mass: Our Whole School End of Year Mass will be this Friday, 12th December at 12.00noon (please note time - to avoid a clash with James Sheahan End of Year Mass). At this Mass we will also announce our Captains for 2015. 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 this week on a separate flyer. Please take note of these times, as they are slightly different to normal weekend Mass times.

Thank You! It has been a very big year, with many things asked of families. Thank you for all you have given to our school and for your generosity towards our many fundraising activities. I pray you have a very happy and Holy Christmas, and a restful time over the break.

God Bless and Merry Christmas!
Robyn Petty
A Christmas Story Yesterday our Year 6 Students presented a musical play which told the story of the nativity. Congratulations to each and every student who entertained us with their wonderful singing, dance and creativity. The performance was a fitting way for the Year 6 students to farewell Catherine McAuley School. Congratulations to Mrs Allan, the Year 6 teachers and all the other teachers who assisted on the day.

Merry Christmas I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school community for a wonderful and productive year. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday and look forward to another successful year in 2015.

Clare Miller

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

China is the world’s largest supplier of Bibles: one factory in Nanjing prints a million a month.
MUSIC & DRAMA

Congratulations to all teachers and students for making our Year 6 Concert “A Christmas Story” a great success. A lot of effort goes into making our concert run smoothly and I think everyone would agree it was outstanding.

Training Band & Guitar Group 2015

A reminder that if you wish your child to be involved in the training band and guitar group in 2015, please return your registration notes this week.

Children from Year 3 to Year 6 are eligible to take part in the guitar group.

Anne Allan

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YEAR 6 FAREWELL HELPERS

From 10:30am tomorrow, Thursday, we will need parents to help set up the hall for the Year 6 Farewell. Any help you are able to offer will be very much appreciated.

Julie Gibson

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BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week and for the rest of December: Thomas Hogben, Sam Littlefield, Emily Wykes, Liam Fraser, Cooper Lawry, Cassidy Hanrahan, Amelia Hogben, Harrison Telford, Simingaye Banda, Molly Edwards, Thomas Madigan, Patrick Joyce, Elizabeth Hazzard, Imogen Jenner, Emi Parkes, Sean Donato, Riley Allen, Nicholas Bennett, Lachlan Wykes, Jade Edwards, Emilia Takiari, Chelsea Turner, Daisy Bohringer, Lachlan Newman, Cooper Agland, Jack Crombie, Aidan Leneghan, Lance Milne, William Thomas, Analea Bevan, Ally-Rose Madden, Mitchell Crean, Antonia Lander, Lillian Burman, Charlize Spurr and Angel Tom.

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TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 15th December to Wednesday 17th December, 2014

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Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942
FAREWELL YEAR 6 2014