FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As a school we are currently in the throes of conducting parent teacher interviews. Firstly I do want to thank all parents (and teachers) who have been so accommodating whilst the new buildings have been constructed. It does seem that the new "online" booking system has been a success. I apologise to those who thought they were booking a parent interview and ended up with tickets to the Eagles concert!!!

As a teaching staff we do recognize that we are merely assisting parents (as main carers) in the job of shaping your children academically and socially especially. It is a parent teacher partnership based on open and honest communication at all times. The point of the interview is to connect with parents firstly, and then give an honest assessment about how the student is faring in all areas of the school and how we can help further development through the year.

Michael Croke

A Faithful Provider
The Lord and Master of our House and Home is a faithful Provider. Let us never desire more than enough - He will give that and a blessing.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Student of the Week:** Congratulations to the following children who were awarded student of the week: Archie Budworth, Riya George, Imogen McGarity, Ava Martyr, Charlize Acheson, Lara Vardanega, Ava Westgeest, Emily Ryan, Cooper Johns, Jackson Plante, Noah Richards, Aldrian Bangayan, Hunter Priest, Kashae Gentles, Kelvin Tang, Maddison Vaughan, Mackenzie Innes, Nyakot Malual, Damien Johnsen, & Callan Arden.

**ParentTeacher Interviews:** Our Parent Teacher Interviews have taken place over the last two weeks. These are great opportunities to open communication between parents and teachers and really develop a team mentality in the education of the children at McAuley. A big Thank you to the Year 3 - Year 6 teachers who are currently involved in those interviews this week. They give parents a valuable insight into their child’s progress in all areas of school life. It is important to spare a thought for our teachers as a class of 25 children equates to over 6 hours of face to face interviews, talking and listening! They deserve some pampering and a rest at the end of this week!

**ParentTeacher Interviews for 3W will be rescheduled for next term information and another booking sheet will be sent out next term.**

**McAuley Athletics Carnival:** Our annual Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 20th March at James Sheahan Catholic High School. Parents who have offered to help will receive information today. We still need a lot of help on the day so if you are able to help please see me on or before the day. Notes have gone out regarding information, permission, parent helpers and canteen information. This year it has been impossible to practise all field events at school as we have in previous years, due to the building work taking place. Therefore the Year 3 children have not had the exposure to the field events that we would normally provide. This will only occur this year and hopefully we will be back to normal next year to the idea that everyone has a go and is encouraged to participate.

**Field Event Dates:**
Friday 20th March – High Jump & Shot Put at the carnival

**Diocesan Winter Sport Trials:** Children in Year 6 (with the exception of Under 11 Rugby League) will be given the opportunity to trial for Polding Teams in Bathurst on Friday 27th March. Sports include Rugby Union, Rugby League (Opens & Under 11’s), Soccer, Hockey and Netball. A letter will be sent home to children in our school who are invited to the trials. Students attending must play the sport and display above average skill level and ability.

**Morning Routine:**
Teachers commence duty at 8.35am.

**Kindergarten & Year 1:**
* Children who arrive before 8.35am are to be seated on their class line.

**Year 2 – Year 6:**
* Year 2 - Year 6 children who arrive before 8.35 are to be seated on the steps outside the Year 5 rooms.

**Afternoon Routine:**
**Byng Street Site: Kindergarten – Year 1:** All children catching buses are to wait on the bus lines in front of the Byng Street site when they are dismissed. Children are to sit on the line designated for their bus until the teacher on duty calls their bus. Children being picked up by parents are to wait on their class lines.

**Hill Street Site: Year 2-6:** All children catching buses are to wait on the Kenna Hall steps when they are dismissed. Children are to sit on the steps until the teacher on duty calls their bus. Children being picked up by parents are to wait behind the brick wall in the gate area. The teacher at the gate area supervises these children. They leave the area when they see their parents. Children are not to wait for parents outside the school grounds as they are not supervised.

*Some children will have permission to walk from one site to the other to meet siblings. It is preferred that children walk from the Hill Street site to the Byng Street site. Please send a note into your child’s class teacher if you wish your child(ren) to catch a bus or be picked up from the other site with their brothers and sisters.*

Steve Maguire
**Lent:** This weekend we celebrate the Fifth Sunday in Lent, and the beginning of the last week before Holy Week. In the Gospel from St John, Jesus is focusing on his approaching death. Jesus uses the powerful image of the grain of wheat, which produces nothing until it is dropped into the ground, where it dies. His challenge to us this week is to ‘die’ to our self in order to grow. Maybe this week we could think about ways of becoming a better version of ourselves by making small sacrifices for others.

**Anti-bullying Week - Be A Buddy Not A Bully:** This week we are supporting the ‘National Day of Action Against Bullying’ with a variety of activities throughout the school. These activities are designed to draw children’s attention to what bullying is, how it is not acceptable and ways of dealing with bullying issues. We began the week with a wonderful Assembly Prayer by Kinder M and their buddies. On Friday, the official National Day, we will issue all students with white wrist bands supporting anti-bullying. All classes have also teamed up with another class to put their ‘hand’ prints on a canvas to show we want to be a ‘Buddy not a bully’. These canvases will then be displayed throughout the school to remind us of our commitment to this very important cause.

**Project Compassion:** Thank you for continuing support of Project Compassion. This wonderful program offers so many people hope in an otherwise bleak world. This week we look at how Caritas Australia helps people like Judy, 39, who lives in Peru. Her shanty town on the outskirts of Lima has no running water, sewerage or paved roads and little access to healthcare. Like Judy’s daughter, Vania, many suffer from malnutrition and disease associated with unhygienic living environments. Through the assistance of Caritas Australia, Vania and many other children attend a childcare centre and receive two free meals a day and regular health checks. Please continue to support the work of Caritas Australia and give generously to this wonderful organisation through your gifts to Project Compassion.

**Easter Timetable:** There will be a full timetable of Easter Celebrations in our Parish sent home next week. Celebrations will begin on Monday 30th March with the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation in St Mary’s Church at 7.30pm. Mass times for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday are available on the Parish Bulletin through the Parish Website: [www.bathurst.catholic.org.au/Parishes/orange.html](http://www.bathurst.catholic.org.au/Parishes/orange.html)

**Class Liturgies and Masses:** Congratulations to Year 6 on their lovely Grade Mass today. We look forward to our Year 2 Grade Liturgy next Wednesday at 12.30pm. All parents and friends of Year 2 are very welcome to join us for this Liturgy.

Wishing you a great week.

God Bless,

Robyn Petty
Infants Athletics Carnival

A reminder that our Athletics Carnival is on this Friday 20th March. Children will attend the carnival for the morning only and will return to school for lunch. Could you please ensure that your children have the below items on the day:

* hat
* sunscreen
* jumper
* recess/ fruito/ lunch (Please separate lunch, recess and fruito) * The children will not be taking their lunch to the carnival  
* water
  
*Please label all items.*

The Infants Section of the carnival will be on the Western side of the field and will commence at approximately 10:00am. Please see your child’s teacher if you are available to help run the events on the day.

In case of rain the carnival will be postponed and children will remain at school.

We look forward to an exciting morning for the children.

Clare Miller

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INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

MOW, NOON and SWIMS read the same when upside down.
**MUSIC & DRAMA**

**Band:** Due to the school Athletics carnival on Friday this week, the senior Concert Band will rehearse on Thursday at lunchtime.

**Guitar Groups:** A separate note was sent home with each guitar student requesting home email addresses. Mr Arthur would appreciate the information this week if you would like your child to access the online tutorials.

**Across the Primary Grades**
A variety of activities are currently underway across the grades in Music and Drama.

Years 5 and 6 are enthusiastically rehearsing their class plays. With many extra scenes having been written by some talented Year 5 students for their play "Tis the Land of Gold", the final scripts are now ready for rehearsal. Year 6 are taking on the challenge of a multi-scene play "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie" which complements their current multicultural studies in HSIE. Both plays will be presented early next term.

Years 3 and 4 have been singing to their hearts' content and accompanying the music with movement and a range of percussion instruments and have been learning to read simple rhythm patterns. Year 4 have displayed their skill in this area at each of the whole school masses this term and have certainly added a valuable dimension to each celebration.

Anne Allan

**ICEBLOCK DRIVE FUNDRAISER**

The last day for our Iceblock Drive orders will be tomorrow Thursday. They come in a pack of 20 tube style Middleton’s iceblocks of varying flavours. Please return your orders if you have not already done so and support our first fundraiser of the year. All proceeds will go towards purchasing new playground equipment. If you have lost your note/order form, you can downloaded the note from our website.

**BIRTHDAYS**

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week:
Abby Gregory, Selena Livermore, Ramsey Tilston, Riley Bollinger, Baxter Cook and Lavinia Culmone.

**TUCKSHOP**

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<th>Day</th>
<th>9.30am—11.30am</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>J Hobbs</td>
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<td>K Ziola</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>D Smith / K Vial</td>
<td>J Gummer / T Horan / J Cook / M Hurley</td>
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Tuckshop Ph:  6362 0942
STAGE 2 BUILDING PROGRESSION