FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I have mentioned many times in previous correspondence what a wonderful community Catherine McAuley is in that it is made up of students, parents, teachers, grandparents, clergy, clergy dog (!). I do want to make special mention of the people in our school who act as unpaid volunteers in some capacity or other and make us a welcoming family.

If anyone is ever doing a study of volunteers in our school and were using the past week as a gauge they would have observed parents "closing down'' our summer garden, helping coordinate our very successful cake sale day, helping with literacy and numeracy in the school in a big way, helping in the tuckshop and being involved in many more activities.

We make a special effort to make sure people feel welcome and wanted in our school community whether they were raised on The Beatles, Australian Crawl, Robbie Williams or Pink! We all have wisdom and energy to contribute to our society and we are delighted that people from all ages and stages feel they can "park" such wisdom and energy at Catherine McAuley. Every person has something to give and as students and staff we know that learning is not confined to only classroom walls.

Michael Croke
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Peer Support: In Peer Support this week the children looked at the notion that what they choose to spend their time on often reflects the values they have. The activities completed on Monday will assist them in identifying ways they care for themselves and others, developing the understanding that you are caring when you notice the feelings and needs of yourself and others. During the week encourage your child to demonstrate they are caring by doing something helpful or displaying kindness around the home.

Notes & Newsletters: A reminder that all school newsletters and notes that are sent home are available on the school website under the newsletters and notes tab.

Professional Learning: Mrs Diana Scullard from the Bathurst CEO worked with our staff at the staff meeting this week to assist them in completing online modules on National Consistent Collection of Data. Mrs Pellow will attend the Bathurst CEO Science Working Party days this Thursday and Friday.

DIBELS Testing: All McAuley students will take part in the DIBELS reading test over the next two weeks to assess fluency and accuracy. Thank you to Mrs Kelly for organising this and our wonderful Teacher Assistants for testing the children.

Food Revolution: The children and teachers of Year 2 were lucky enough to be invited to take part in the Food Revolution organised by the staff of Woolworths last Friday. Jamie Oliver is the face of the Food Revolution and the children made healthy wraps in order to get them excited about eating fresh healthy food.

Sabbatical Week: Next week is Sabbatical week. This is the week in the middle of the term when we try to minimise activities and meetings. Another bonus is there is NO HOMEWORK for a week. Which always puts a smile on many faces at McAuley.

UNSW Tests: As last year students will be able to nominate and sit for the ICAS tests. Catherine McAuley will offer students the opportunity to sit the English Tuesday 29th July and Mathematics Tuesday 12th August. A note was sent home last week asking for nominations and payment for children wishing to sit these external tests. The cost will be $9.00 per test.

Sport at McAuley: Over the next few weeks many of our students will be busy displaying their sports skills. We will be represented in the Rugby Union 10 a side competition, our League teams will compete in the Richardson Cup and Peachey Shield, the Paul Kelly Cup AFL Finals Day and the Rugby Union 7’s Final Day. Our Netballers are also preparing for their competition.

Steve Maguire
Sixth Sunday of Easter: The year is flying by, already we are at the end of the Easter Season. This weekend we celebrate our final weekend of Easter before Christ’s Ascension into Heaven. In St John’s Gospel this week, Jesus asks us to keep his commandments. He realizes this is quite a task, therefore He promises to send someone to help us, the Holy Spirit. This is quite fitting, given the fact that our children will receive the Spirit next weekend at Confirmation, the week before our celebration of Pentecost. Perhaps this week we could ask the Spirit to be with us, guiding us and helping us to truly ‘love one another’.

Confirmation: With only a little over a week to go before Confirmation, our Year 6 students are very busy with their preparation for the Sacrament. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to grow in their knowledge of the Spirit, and look at ways of continuing Christ’s work. As part of their preparation, Year 6 received the Sacrament of Penance yesterday. Please remember to attend the practice for Confirmation next Thursday, 29th May in St Mary’s Church at 7.00pm. This practice will be for all Candidates receiving Confirmation this year, regardless of which Mass or Church they may be receiving the Sacrament. There are several aspects to receiving the Sacrament, and this practice is to assist candidates with the processes involved in the Confirmation Ceremony. All Candidates are encouraged to attend.

Liturgies For This Term: Next Wednesday, 28th May, Kinder will celebrate their Grade Liturgy at 12.30pm in the Church. Everyone is invited to join Kinder for this Liturgy. The following week, on Wednesday 4th June, Year 2 will celebrate their Grade Liturgy at 12.30 in the Church. All our children love to see their families and friends at these special celebrations. You are always very welcome to join the children at all Liturgies and Masses.

God Bless,
Robyn Petty
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

Notes to Explain Absences

As you would be aware, the manner in which teachers record the class roll has changed from a paper version to an online version. While this system is efficient it is difficult for teachers to easily look at past unexplained absences and then send out reminder notes. As a result of this, we ask that parents are very diligent in providing a note when their child has been absent. Notes must be provided within 14 days of the absence and should include the child’s name, the date of the absence, the nature of the leave and a parental signature. Unexplained absences must be recorded on student’s reports.

Colouring In Competition

Congratulations to Winnie Johnson who was awarded first place in the Newcastle Permanent Colouring In Competition. She has won an account at Newcastle Permanent with a starting balance of $30.00.

Z-Scaler

Geoff Coleman from the CEO will be working within our school this week to install Z-scaler on all school computers. Z-scaler is an internet filter that blocks inappropriate material. This system will be managed by CEO and aims to create an even safer environment for our students.

MUSIC & DRAMA

Band: Our School Bands have some major performances this term. The first will be next Wednesday, 28th May where both bands will take part in the School Spec. This will be held at the Orange Regional Conservatorium in Hill St, commencing at 7:00pm. A separate note was sent home last week.

The second event is the James Sheahan Catholic High School's "Music Manifesto" on Friday night June 20th. Our senior Concert Band members will join with the Sheahan Band to entertain the masses, so mark the date in your diaries now! More details will be given in the weeks to come.

Visiting Performers: Next Wednesday, all students will be entertained by "The Chambermaids", a Wind quintet. This will be the culmination of the term's work, all children having studied various aspects of the Chambermaids' repertoire.

Seusical: This year, the Orange Theatre Company will be performing "Seusical the Musical". Any children interested in being involved should attend the compulsory information session on Sunday 1st June at 2:00pm to be held at James Sheahan Catholic High School. For further information visit:

www.orangetheatreco.com.au

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

A baby Echidna is called a “puggle”.

CAKE STALL

A huge thankyou to all parents and children in Year 5 and 6 who baked for the cake stall last Friday. There was an enormous variety of goodies for the children to choose from and the stall was a huge success. We raised approximately $540!! Money raised helps to supplement school resources in the classroom.

AFL SUCCESS

AFL boys winners - Congratulations to our McAuley AFL team who were winners at the Paul Kelly Cup qualifying round. They will now travel to Blacktown to participate in the Paul Kelly Cup Finals on 28th of May.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children: Lucas Blashki, Grace Edwards, Akol Akon, Ruby Redmond, Ollea Iffland, Anika Ballard, Tallis Thomas, Kiah Woodham, Timothy Simpson

TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>9.30am—11.30am</th>
<th>11.30am—2.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>C Chapman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>M Milne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>C Vardanega</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>P Taberner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>R Phillips/B Duffy</td>
<td>M Arden/P Crain/J Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E Jeffery</td>
<td>K D'Ombrais *12.45-1.45pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLASS OF THE WEEK

Year 4 have been very busy finding out wonderful facts about minibeasts. This relates to our Science unit "Cycles and Mini worlds". In 4T the students have chosen their own minibeast/insect to research and they include: dragonflies, butterflies, fireflies, spiders, scorpions, bed bugs, wasps and hornets, bees, frogs, and ants. Lachlan Wykes decided to research his own make believe insect called a "Flozzie." It is a cross between a Fly and a mosquito!

Some of the facts the children have learnt include:
Ethan Dillon: "Fat tail scorpions can sting you but they can also flick their venom when attacking their prey."
Hannah Daley-Beggs: "Bed bugs can only survive in hot areas. They don't like cold climates."
Kate Wykes: "Female frogs can lay over 1000 eggs at a time."
Henry Patterson: "Sydney funnel webs like to hide in holes where it is cooler."
Emma Kennedy: "Honeybees are medium sized winged insects."
Saige King: "The male fireflies have wings but the females do not."
Ryan Downie: "The yellow paper wasp stings more gradually than the honey bee."

We thought we would see what minibeasts lived in the Catherine McAuley playground. Most ran away in fright once 4T's eager hands started rustling through the undergrowth but we managed to find: black and green ants, weevils, earthworms, slaters, mosquitoes and spiders. We were very careful not to touch the spiders as they can be dangerous!

In English we learnt a great deal about Anzac Day and Gallipoli in Week 1 before we moved onto the Minibeasts theme. We are reading the novel Charlotte's Web in class and the students love hearing about the adventures of Charlotte the Spider and Wilbur the pig. We are working very hard in Mathematics and trying to improve our number recall by learning a different times table each week and the students compete against themselves by being time tested each day.

We look forward to sharing with you what we have learnt this term at the whole School Assembly in Week 8, which will be hosted by Year 4. This will include songs, poetry and plenty of minibeast facts to keep you entertained!

Mrs Mulligan, Mrs Niven and 4T