FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Richard Fidler is the host of a radio show "Conversations". During the show he chats to people from all works of life about their life in general. Recently he composed a book highlighting his guests and the content of the interviews. At the end of the book he concludes that the happiest and most content of his guests were those unselfish people who were always helping others in the community.

I say this as a background to an event that involved our students last Sunday in St Mary's Church. Many of our students were inducted into the "Mini Vinnies" program, a program affiliated with St Vincent de Paul, which involves a group of students who give up much of their spare time to help those less fortunate including people in nearby nursing homes. They truly have caught the spirit of our foundress Catherine McAuley. She would be indeed proud of what they are doing.

Michael Croke

The Kind Word

There are things that the poor prize more highly than gold, tho' they cost the donor nothing; among these are the kind word, the gentle, compassionate look, and the patient hearing of their sorrows.

Catherine McAuley 1778-1841
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Student of the Week: Congratulations to the following children who were awarded student of the week: Sienna Vaughan, Isabella Garnaut, Eve Gander, Chloe Cox, Daisy Bohringer, Roman Lane, Oliver Taberner, Feba Babu, Harrison Telford, Claudia Johnstone, Alexandra Milne, Alexander O'Brien, Johnty French, Liam Kennedy, Joseph Murphy, Ryan Downie, Ethan Kenney, Ella Kingham, Julia Johnsen & Olivia Collins.

Whole School Assembly: Year 1 will organise and present work at the next Whole School Assembly this Friday 27th March commencing at 12.00pm in Kenna Hall. All welcome.

McAuley Athletics Carnival: We were blessed with a beautiful day for our Athletics Carnival last Friday. It was fantastic to have so many parents and grandparents there to support our athletes. Thank you to Mr Pauschmann Principal of James Sheahan Catholic High School for allowing us to have the carnival there. A big thank you to Mrs Jordan and her Year 11 students for ensuring the success of the day. The Sheahan Ground Staff were also extremely helpful. A huge thank you to Gemma Dwyer, Alison Karbowiak, Marguerite Hurley, Julie Gibson and all the parents who helped run the BBQ and canteen. Thank you to the teachers and parents who were officials and organised the day.

There were some outstanding athletic achievements on the day and McAuley will be well represented at the Southern Region Athletics in Canowindra on the 24th July.

Congratulations to the Age Champions:
8 Years: Freya Bryant & Jayden Innes
9 Years: Rachel Masling & Jack Dean
10 Years: Hope Gibson & Cruz Jordan
11 Years: Chloe Jaques & Agieg Aluk
Senior: Olivia Collins & Blair Ward

Congratulations to the winning House:
1st - Bennelong
2nd - Kabbarli
3rd - Euroa
4th - Woomera

Diocesan Winter Sport Trials: Children in Year 6 (with the exception of Under 11 Rugby League where Year 5 boys participate) will be given the opportunity to trial for Polding Teams in Bathurst on Friday 27th March. Sports include Rugby Union, Ruby League (Opens & Under 11’s), Soccer, Hockey and Netball. Students attending must play the sport and display above average skill level and ability. Good luck to all our students.

Year 7 – 2015 Enrolment at James Sheahan Catholic High School: A reminder to parents of Year 6 children, enrolment applications for Year 7 at James Sheahan in 2016 are due to the James Sheahan front office by next Tuesday 31st March. Enrolment in Catherine McAuley or St Mary’s Catholic Schools does not guarantee automatic enrolment in James Sheahan. Children need to take part in the enrolment process including having their application in on time.

ICAS Tests: As in previous years students will be able to nominate and sit the ICAS tests for Mathematics and English. Catherine McAuley will offer students the opportunity to sit the English on Tuesday 28th July and Mathematics Tuesday 11th August. A note was sent home today asking for nominations and payment for children wishing to sit these external tests. The cost will be $9.00 per test.

Steve Maguire
**Lent:** Holy Week is almost upon us! This weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday and the beginning of Jesus’ final week here on earth. The Gospel this week is from St Mark, and relates the events leading to Jesus’ suffering and death – which is the culmination of the work he was born to do. As we prepare for this very special week, perhaps we could reflect on how Jesus must have been feeling at this time; rejected by those he was working to save, betrayed by one close to him and even his best friend denied knowing him. There are times in our lives when we too suffer these feelings of isolation and betrayal. We can truly be assured that Jesus understands our pain, and will be there for us in our need.

**Project Compassion:** It is now time to start returning our Project Compassion boxes. Thank you for all the support you have given this very special program. The work of Caritas Australia would not be able to be nearly as effective without the money provided through Project Compassion. Many, many people throughout the world have had both their dignity and independence restored through the wonderful work of Caritas Australia and you can be assured that you have played a role in this work through your contributions.

**Mini Vinnies Commissioning Mass:** It was a privilege to be at the Commissioning Mass for our Mini Vinnies students last Sunday at St Mary’s Church. I was so proud of our students who have chosen to give up their lunchtime once a week in order to support some of our local organisations, such as St Francis Nursing Home. Congratulations to all these students, and to Mrs Tavares, who guides and supports this wonderful work.

**Holy Week Celebrations:** Next Thursday, 2\(^{nd}\) April, there will be a whole school celebration for Easter. This will take the form of the “Way of the Cross”, and will be held in St Joseph’s Church from 12.00 noon. You are very welcome to join us for our celebrations, which should last less than an hour. All children will be involved as we gather to once again tell the story of Jesus’ journey to Resurrection.

**Easter Timetable:** A full timetable of Easter Celebrations in our Parish has been sent home this week. Further details 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:** We look forward to the Year 2 Grade Liturgy, which will be held tomorrow, Thursday 26\(^{th}\) March at 12.30pm. Family and friends are most welcome to join them.

Wishing you a great week.

God Bless,

Robyn Petty
FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

Student Email Accounts
In recent times we have had many technical difficulties which prevented our students from logging in to their student gmail accounts. As we begin to overcome these difficulties and classes are beginning to use their accounts more regularly, I urge parents to discuss the use of this worthwhile educational tool with their children. Students have been encouraged to share their account details with parents. This provides parents with the opportunity to ensure that children are using the tool safely and also allows parents to view the work that is being done at school.

Be A Buddy Not A Bully
Last week our school took a stand against bullying by registering to be part of the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Domestic Violence. Our involvement included a prayer at Monday’s Assembly led by KM and 6P. These two classes also enjoyed performing a wrap with the mantra “Be a buddy, not a bully”. Throughout the week classes were paired up to create a canvas of handprints. The students were asked to confirm their stand against bullying with the handprint and they were challenged to think of ways to combat bullying at our school. The link below provides worthwhile information for parents regarding bullying.


Infants Athletics Carnival
Last Friday Infants children joined their Primary counterparts for the McAuley Athletics Carnival for the second year. Once again this has been a successful venture and has allowed the Infants students to feel part of this fantastic event. It was wonderful to see students happily engaged in races, ball games and novelties. A big thank you to Mrs Jennene Carpenter, Mrs Margaret Wright and Mrs Helen Croke who organised the Kindergarten to Year 2 side of things. Thanks also must go to the many parents who assisted and supported their children on the day.

Clare Miller
Our Age Champions & Winning House

8 Years: Freya Bryant & Jayden Innes

9 Years: Rachel Masling & Jack Dean

10 Years: Hope Gibson & Cruz Jordan

11 Years: Chloe Jaques & Agieg Aluk

Senior: Olivia Collins & Blair Ward

Winning House - Bennelong with House Captains
Thomas Madigan & Olivia Collins

INTERESTING FACT OF THE WEEK

The name Canberra resulted from a competition; losing entries included Democratia, Kangaremu and Australamooloo.
MINI VINNIES COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

At the start of the Mass Saige welcomed all the people and talked to them about Mini Vinnies. We said the Mini Vinnies pledge while the people at the mass blessed us.

At the Mini Vinnies Commisioning Ceremony we got a photo taken of the Mini Vinnies members. Saige cut the cake and Mrs Niven helped her. We served the cake to the members of Mini Vinnies and their parents.

By Chelsea & Arabella

NETBALL

Robin Hood Hotel Netball Club is looking for some extra players to make up an 8yrs team to play on Saturday mornings in the Orange local competition. If your child is interested in playing, please contact Fiona Bouffler on 0402 800 828

KOALA CLUB BANKING

There will be no Koala Club Banking next week. Banking will re-start in Week 1 Term 2.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following children who have birthdays this week: Feba Babu, Hayley Baird, Benjamin Hoskins-Murphy, Maddison Lawry, Lyla Budd, Wendy Ou Yang, Amelia Lieben, Persephanie Coghlan, Jorja Scott-Robertson, Callum Wilcox, Aiden Fieldus, Ella Jones, Lucy O’Malley, Kody Wasow, Charli Hobbs, Jose Pantoja-Tito.

TUCKSHOP

Roster—Commencing Monday 30th March to Friday 3rd April 2015

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Tuckshop Ph: 6362 0942