



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop Primary School,

Celebrating our Feast Day

On January 15, 1842 Mary MacKillop was born in Fitzroy, Victoria. Mary, the eldest of eight children, was well educated by her father who spent some years studying for the priesthood in Rome. Unfortunately, Mary's father lacked financial awareness, so the family was often without a home of their own, depending on friends and relatives and frequently separated from one another. From the age of sixteen, Mary earned her living and greatly supported her family, as a governess, as a clerk, and as a teacher. While acting as a governess to her uncle's children at Penola, Mary met Father Julian Tenison Woods who needed help with the religious education of children in the outback. In 1866, greatly inspired and encouraged by Father Woods, Mary opened the first Saint Joseph's School in a disused stable in Penola. Young women came to join Mary, and so the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph was begun. In 1867, Mary was asked by Bishop Shiel to come to Adelaide to start a school. From there, the Sisters spread, in groups to small outback settlements and large cities around Australia, New Zealand, and now in Peru, Brazil and refugee camps of Uganda and Thailand. Mary and these early Sisters, together with other Religious Orders and Lay Teachers of the time, had a profound influence on the forming of Catholic Education as we have come to know and experience it today. Throughout her life, Mary refused to attack those who wrongly accused her and undermined her work, but continued in the way she believed God was calling her and was always ready to forgive those who wronged her. Throughout her life Mary suffered ill health. She died on August 8, 1909 in the convent in Mount Street, North Sydney where her tomb is now enshrined. This great Australian woman inspired great dedication to God's work in the then new colonies. In today's world, she stands as an example of great courage and trust in her living out of God's loving and compassionate care of those in need. I would like to invite all parents and friends to join us in Our Feast Day Eucharistic Celebration at St Nicholas of Myra Church on Friday 8 August at 10:00am.

Let Us Pray

Ever generous God,

*You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
 With confidence in your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop*

We ask that you grant our request.....

*We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit
 so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.*

Ever generous God hear our prayer.

We ask this through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Let us Pray for Cardinal Edward Clancy

Cardinal Clancy, Sydney's seventh Archbishop, died early on Sunday at the Little Sisters of the Poor nursing home at Randwick where he had been receiving care for the past eight years. Bishop Peter Comensoli, the Archdiocese of Sydney Apostolic Administrator, said the news caused "great sadness." Father Brian Lucas, secretary of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference said, "He will be remembered not only by decisions such as the creation of the dioceses of Broken Bay and Parramatta but for his strong leadership in the beatification and eventual canonisation of Mary MacKillop" Father Frank Brennan remembered Cardinal Clancy as a candid man, "a fine church leader and a gentleman". Wollongong Bishop Peter Ingham, who worked under Cardinal Clancy for seven years, said he remembered, "A man of integrity, who was determined, even-handed, and who discharged his responsibilities conscientiously, in fact with an overwhelming sense of duty," Let us keep Cardinal Clancy in our prayers.

The Wizard of Oz

Our primary students will be performing in St Mary MacKillop's production of The Wizard of Oz during this week. This production is a great way of our students enhancing their talents in singing, acting and dancing. We have students playing principal roles, character roles, dancing, assisting backstage and as part of the choir. The students have been rehearsing very hard with Mr Carroll & Mrs Meehan and are looking forward to performing for audiences. To allow as many students the opportunity to perform, we have two casts (red and blue) performing the show over the four performances. BLUE CAST- 3M, 3B, 4BL, 5M, 6M and RED CAST- 3W, 4H, 5G, 6PM. BLUE CAST performs Thursday 7 August 7:00pm and RED CAST performs Friday 8 August 7:00pm. I am very proud of the talented children and Staff at St Mary MacKillop and look forward to seeing you at the remaining performances.

Canteen St Mary MacKillop

I am currently inviting tenders to submit canteen proposals following requests from a group of parents. I am keen to hear from other parents who would like to express the *pros and cons* of starting a canteen in 2015. Please send your thoughts on this endeavour addressed to me via the school email.

Have a Blessed Week

Michael Siciliano
 PRINCIPAL



Religious Education News

Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop: Mass, Treats and Coin Trail:

Tomorrow, to honour our school patron, St Mary MacKillop, the entire school community will travel by bus to our parish church, St Nicholas of Myra to celebrate mass at 10:00am. This mass will be led by Year 4 and all parents, friends and parishioners are warmly invited to join us. After mass the students will return to school and receive some very special treats from our wonderful P & F.

To conclude our Feast Day celebrations each class will create a gold coin trail. The money raised from this Social Justice activity will be sent to the Mary MacKillop Institute in East Timor. The country of East Timor is Australia's closest neighbour, yet it is a very poor country. The work of the Sisters of St Joseph in East Timor is very important – they provide education, food, clothes, clean water and love to the needy. The gold coin trail will, in a simple way, help our school community to carry on St Mary MacKillop's motto of *“Never see a need without doing something about it.”* There will be two class prizes for our fundraiser – one prize for the longest trail and one prize for the most money raised.

First Communion Photos:

First Communion photos will be available for collection from the parish meeting room on the weekend of 9/10 August 2014. Saturday, 9 August 5:15pm-6:00pm and Sunday, 10 August 8:00am – 11:30am. If you had family photos taken they will be available for you to view and order. Many thanks Anne Tucker, Sacramental Co-ordinator

Feast of the Assumption:

Friday 15 August is the Feast of the Assumption. The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the belief that the body and soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken into heaven after the end of her earthly life. God gave her this privilege because of her sinlessness and role as the Mother of Jesus. Mary's assumption into heaven is seen by many as a fulfillment of Jesus' promise to all faithful servants; that they too will be received into the kingdom of God. To celebrate the Feast of the Assumption we will have a Whole School Mass in the multi-purpose hall at 10:00am. All parents and friends are invited to attend.

Change of Date for Year 2 Liturgy and Year 6 Mass:

Please note that due to a clash of dates the Term 3 Year 2 Liturgy and Year 6 Mass have had to change dates. The new dates are Year 6 Grade Mass: 9:15am Friday 29 August and Year 2 Liturgy: 9:15am Friday 12 September.

Sewing Volunteers Needed:

I still have some pieces of material that need hemming so if there is anyone in our school community who is handy on a sewing machine please contact Mrs Gillard via the school office and leave your name and contact details. Thank you in advance for your help.

Mrs Leesa Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

From the Assistant Principal - Mr Steve Cauchi

ICAS Examinations:

Next Tuesday 12 August, 43 students from Years 3-6 will complete the ICAS Mathematics test. This is the final ICAS test for 2014. Last week, children sat the English test with the results expected to be returned in a few weeks time.

Thank You:

A special thank you to the Mount family, (Blake and Harrison) for their generous donation of some representative soccer shirts that our Stage 2 boys used at their recent Soccer Gala Day. These will come in handy for future representative sporting events.

Zone Athletics Carnival:

Tomorrow, over 40 students will represent St Mary MacKillop at the Nepean Zone athletics carnival at Blacktown. We wish these students well and we look forward to hearing some results next week.

Maths Olympiad:

3 of the 5 Olympiad tests have been completed. Our students are demonstrating some very clever problem solving skills. How have you been going? Have a go at the question which appears later in this KIT.

Staff Development Day – 18 August 2014:

A reminder that Monday 18 August is a pupil free day. During this day, the staff will be familiarising themselves with the new mathematics K-6 syllabus document which becomes mandatory implementation in 2015.

Library News

Last Friday, St. Mary MacKillop library was a busy place to be as we hosted our much awaited **Book Fair**. We had many parents and grandparents visiting the fair to purchase books to take home, all of these sales have benefited our school through cash commissions. Thank you to the families who also donated a range of books to the library. We managed to sell just over **\$8,500.00** worth of books, which has given us a significant amount to purchase new resources for the library. A **huge thank you** to our Book Fair helpers, **Mrs Keane, Mrs Graham, Mrs Volkiene, and Mrs Whalen** who gave up their time to assist with sales and reorders on the day. Students who ordered books will receive them as soon as they arrive from Scholastic. Our colouring in competition was once again very popular, congratulations to those students who received a prize for their efforts. We look forward to attending our performance on Monday, August 25 to celebrate Book Week 2014.

Maree Eisenhuth

Teacher Librarian

Year 1 Vegetable Garden

We were learning about Good Tucker. So we decided that it would be a great idea to grow some healthy food ourselves. We bought our vegetable garden from Bunning's with the help of Mrs Sykes. Mrs Sykes and Mrs Napoli put the garden together outside Year 1 classrooms. We chose a sunny spot so the vegie's would grow. We had to fill the garden with soil and cow manure and then cover the soil with mulch. We have planted rocket, carrots and broccoli. Also turnips, spinach, cabbage and silverbeet. We also have some herbs growing. We take care of our vegetables by watering them well every second day from our watering cans. Egg shells are used to keep away the snails and slugs. We love our vegetable garden because it teaches us how to care for things. We can't wait for our vegetables to grow so we can take some home to cook and eat.

Composed by Year 1 Students



Year 4 Religion - Diocesan Creative Task

All Year 4 children in the Parramatta Diocese are required to complete a creative task in response to the message of the Parable of The Forgiving Father. The students can choose to respond through storybooks, magazines, electronic presentations, posters or banners. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Suzana Esterhuizen for her wonderful work over the past few years in teaching the children some fantastic painting techniques to help them transfer their creative ideas on to banners. We are very fortunate to have Suzana's help in this area and the children certainly love working with her. Thank you Suzana!

Year 4 Teachers

P & F News

Grandparent's Day - THANK YOU:

Thank you to all the wonderful parents that contributed to the grandparent's day morning tea. Thank you to all the bakers and especially to the angels that made the morning tea enjoyable for all, you are all crucial pillars to our community, so we THANK YOU as the day would not have run smoothly without your help.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day - Friday, 8 August

Surprise treats are in store for all our amazing students on this day. A special thank you goes out to Mr Siciliano, our amazing teachers and invaluable parents and friends of St Mary MacKillop Primary school for making this all possible.

Parent Representative Council - Dates for your Diary

General Meeting - Learning difficulties with Sue Walsh (Director of Learning Support): How do I know? What do I do? How can I get support? taking place on **Monday, 18 August 2014 at 7pm**, location is the Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Flushcombe Rd and Marion St, Blacktown. RSVP is essential for events, don't miss out: preparraevents@hotmail.com

CLASS PARENT REP & GENERAL P & F MEETING:

Just a reminder that the next Class Parent Rep meeting will be taking place on **Tuesday, 19 August at 7:00pm** in the Multi-Purpose Centre followed by the General P & F meeting at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

DANCE-A-THON 2014 - Wednesday 20 August 2014:

We are having our Dance-a-thon on Wednesday, 20 August. Students will be dancing in shifts and once the dance-a-thon is complete they will be provided with a refreshment. Parent helpers are always appreciated during these events. More information coming soon. Thank you for all your support.

Father's Day Stall Brochure Orders - Due Friday 22 August 2014:

This year we have prepared a brochure to be sent home so that children may discuss and choose with their maternal figures - quality time with your children - the gifts they wish to choose for their father figures. Gift order limit is a **maximum of 3 gifts per child**. The form with the student details and correct money need to be **returned to the office by Friday 22 August 2014**. Prices will vary between \$2 - \$6. The chosen gifts will be wrapped and prepared for your child to pick up on Friday 5 September 2014. We pray there will be less confusion, less stress, less tears and less disruptions to quality class time with this process in place. Brochure and order form is enclosed with this week's KIT and will be available on our school website to download as well.

SOUTHLANDS REWARDS PROGRAM - REMINDER

Please don't forget to collect your receipts and place them in the box at the Southlands Shopping Centre with our school name on it. Thank you so much for your support.

God Bless

Liz Whalen-President on behalf of the P & F Executive Team

Dates for Your Diary Term 3 - 2014

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday	7 August	7:00pm	Wizard of Oz School Performance-BLUE CAST
Friday	8 August	10:00am 7:00pm	Feast of St Mary MacKillop Whole School Mass @ St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church Wizard of Oz School Performance-RED CAST
Monday	11 August	2:05pm	6M Assembly
Tuesday	12 August		ICAS Mathematics Competition
Friday	15 August	10:00am	Feast of the Assumption Whole School Mass
Monday	18 August		Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day
Tuesday	19 August	7:00pm 7:30pm	St Nicholas Netball Gala Day Jamison Park Parent Representative Meeting P & F General Meeting
Wednesday	20 August		P & F Dance-a-thon
Thursday	21 August		K-2 Infants Tabloid Sports Carnival
Friday	22 August		Diocesan Athletics Carnival
Monday	25 August	2:05pm	2A Assembly
Tuesday	27 August		Year 1 Australiana Pioneer Village Excursion
Friday	29 August	9:15am	Kindergarten Calmsley Hill City Farm Excursion Year 6 Mass
Monday	1 September	9:00am 2:05pm	Year 3 Group 1 (3W & 3M) CARES Excursion 4BL Assembly
Tuesday	2 September	9:00am	Year 3 Group 2 (3B & 3M) CARES Excursion
Friday	5 September	TBA	Father's Day Liturgy and Stall Stage 2 Touch Gala Day @ St Mary's
Monday	8 September	2:05pm	KD Assembly Talent Quest Auditions Monday-Friday
Friday	12 September	9:15am	Year 2 Liturgy Stage 3 Boys & Girls Touch Football
Monday	15 September	2:05pm	1M Assembly
Thursday	18 September	2:00pm	Talent Quest Showcase
Friday	19 September	9:15am	Kindergarten Liturgy Term 3 Ends

MATHS OLYMPIAD

Answer to Question 2 - Week 8 Term 2:

Find the sum: $137 + 138 + 139 + 140 + 141 + 142 + 143$. Take the middle (average) of the consecutive numbers and multiply by 7. Rewrite as: $137+138+139+140+141+142+143=140 \times 7=980$

Question 3 Week 4 Term 3:

Sarah and Connor went bowling together. Sarah rented bowling shoes and played three games, for a total cost of \$9.50. Connor rented bowling shoes and played five games, for a total cost of \$14.50.

How much does it cost to rent bowling shoes?