Term 3, Week 4

25 August 2016

ST MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SOUTH PENRITH

Keeping In Touch

150 Fragar Road South Penrith 2750
Telephone: 4736 3466 Fax: 4736 2681
Email: stmarymackillop@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.mackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop Primary School.

Inspired by Bishop Vincent

Last Wednesday 18 August Bishop Vincent Long OMF, Conv, Parramatta Diocese delivered the 2016 Ann Clark lecture at Evan Theatre, Penrith Panthers, titled, "Pope Francis and the challenge of being church today."
I was so inspired by his presentation that I would like to share parts of his lecture:

This was what Mary MacKillop did when she rallied her sisters behind the poor and vulnerable in colonial Australia. She took a prophetic stance, not simply in providing affordable quality Catholic education and health care to the poor masses, but fundamentally in meeting the great cultural challenges of their times. "Never see a need without doing something about it". In acting out of a strong passion for the Kingdom and a visceral compassion for the suffering, she brought about a fresh hope for others…..

Pope Francis constantly calls us to move beyond the security of the status quo and take the risk of going to the periphery. The church must be the church of the poor and for the poor. The church must go out of itself in order to be close to those in need. Conversely, the church that does not go out into the world keeps Jesus imprisoned……

Pope Francis has unleashed a new energy, he has poured a new wine which cannot be contained in old wineskins. He has challenged us to move in concert with him and bring about the rebirth of the church. I am endeavouring to follow the pope's lead. I have forfeited my Qantas Club membership, which is not a big deal these days. I fly with Tiger regularly – on a wing and a prayer. But that's the easy part. The harder part is to do what most of you do, which is to labour at the coalface of the church. It is have the smell of the sheep, to walk with people, identifying with them in their struggles, their questions and their uncertainties. It is to discern and live out the vision of hope in the midst of life's disappointments.

Log onto the link below for the whole lecture. It's an exceptional discourse.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv delivers 2016 Ann D Clark Lecture

SMMK 2016 NAPLAN RESULTS

Last week children in year 3 and 5 from our school took home their 2016 Naplan Results. Back in May all students in year 3, year 5, year 7 and year 9 participated in the National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

The purpose of this assessment is to provide information to parents and teachers about the achievements of students in aspects of literacy and Numeracy. The test provides a measure of the students performance against establishes standards and against other students in our state. Each year the results are analysed by our school to inform our teaching with the intention of improving student performance.

The Commonwealth Government sets minimum acceptable standards for literacy, numeracy, reading, writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling at each year group assessed. These are referred to as minimum standards. Students performance in Naplan at our school are compared to these standards in the tables below.

The percentages of students achieving at or above these national minimum standards are higher at St Mary MacKillop than the state percentage in all assessment areas in both year three and year five. Also the percentages of students in the top three bands in all assessment areas are higher at St Mary MacKillop than the state percentages in year three and year five.

Year 3 2016 NAPLAN Results	% of children at or above minimum standard		% of children in the top three bands	
	School	State	School	State
Grammar	98	95	85.2	71.9
Reading	98	95	85.2	70.8
Writing	98	97	96.4	80.8
Spelling	98	95	87	76.1
Numeracy	96	95	75.9	61

National Assessment Program

Literacy and Numeracy

Year 5 2016 NAPLAN Results	% of children at or above minimum standard		% of children in the top three bands	
	School	State	School	State
Grammar	98	95	68.3	64.2
Reading	95	93	71.7	62.3
Writing	97	93	66.7	50
Spelling	97	93	76.6	63.6
Numeracy	98	94	71.7	57.1

Children need to play outside

We can't expect children to sit for hours on end, interspersed with little movement breaks and not expect consequences to their development. Some experts believe children need at least three hours of outdoor play on a daily basis in order to foster healthy sensory and motor development. They need opportunities to climb trees, run as fast as they can, use their imagination, test their strength, roll, climb, balance and even spin in circles. All of these activities use their brain, activate their muscles both big and small and engage the senses.

This lays the foundation for being able to pay attention, listen and learn in a classroom setting. So the next time you pick your children up from school, take them to a park and let them run around for a while. On the weekends spend the day at the beach, even if it's not sunny and warm — there are benefits in being outside in all kinds of weather. Encourage them to ride their bikes to friends' houses. Get to know your neighbours and create a community that watches out for the children so that they can play outdoors.

Studies indicate that when children switch from spending hours primarily indoors and sitting at a desk to one where the child is free to move and play throughout the day, the results can be far-reaching. Problems of poor attention all but disappear and children become attentive and active learners. Time spent playing outdoors fosters a joy of learning and confidence in one's abilities — two critical elements in the classroom and in life. All it takes is some time and a place to play outside.

As a society we're making great strides toward obesity prevention. While we are working to keep our children at healthy weights, we must also strive to ensure healthy behaviours, attitudes, sensory function, strength and coordination. This is true health, and to get it, our children should be introduced to a lot more outdoor playtime with their peers. Acknowledgement: Valerie Strauss, Washington Post, 7 June 2016

Thought for the Week

"Most of us are just about as happy as we make up our minds to be'
-Abraham Lincoln

Have a Blessed Week

Michael Siciliano

PRINCIPAL

Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy: 8th December 2105 – 20th November 2016

Year of Mercy Logo

Diocese of Parramatta Logo

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

Last KIT the Spiritual Works of Mercy were introduced. This week I would like to unpack the first 2 of these works and their implications for our lives today.

The seven Spiritual Works of Mercy are:

1. To instruct the uninformed;
2. To counsel the doubtful;
3. To admonish sinners;
4. To bear wrongs patiently;
5. To forgive offences willingly;
6. To comfort the afflicted;
7. To pray for the living and the dead.

Instruct the uninformed

This means, first of all, accepting our God-given responsibility to be the primary source of religious education and formation for our children. While Catholic schools help with this, the responsibility primarily rests with parents. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that "parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children" (2223). This includes, from an early age, reading to children Bible stories, the stories of the lives of the saints and praying together as a family.

Beyond our homes, of course, the need for instruction in the faith is equally urgent. Often there is no more effective (and no less threatening) way to share the Catholic faith with our friends than to do so *in the natural course of friendship itself*. Always be open to talking with others about your beliefs. There is always something more to discover about your faith.

Counsel the doubtful

Everyone has moments of doubt in their faith journey. Nevertheless, we should always remember that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and turn to him along our way.

Follow Christ with the witness of your life so that others may see God's love revealed in your actions. www.usccb.org www.thedivinemercy.org

The Sacrament of Confirmation

As many of our students are about to begin preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday 13th September it is an opportune time to reflect on our understanding of this sacrament.

The sacrament of Confirmation builds on the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion and completes the process of initiation into the Catholic community. It establishes young adults as full members of the faith. This sacrament is called *Confirmation* because the faith given in Baptism is now confirmed and made strong. During Baptism, parents and godparents make promises to believe in God and the Church on a child's behalf. At Confirmation, the candidates renew those same promises, this time speaking for themself.

During Confirmation, the focus is on the Holy Spirit, who confirmed the apostles at Pentecost and gave them courage to practice their faith. Catholics believe that the same Holy Spirit confirms during the Sacrament of Confirmation and gives them the same gifts. The seven *gifts* of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence and awe.

A bishop celebrates the Sacrament of Confirmation, because each bishop is a successor to the Apostles, upon whom the Holy Spirit descended at Pentecost—the first Confirmation. The bishop wears red vestments to symbolize the red tongues of fire seen hovering over the heads of the apostles at Pentecost.

Confirmation is administered by the laying on of hands, which signifies the descent of the Holy Spirit, and the anointing of the confirmation candidate with chrism (an aromatic oil that has been consecrated by a bishop). At the time of anointing the bishop will say "*Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit*" This seal is a consecration, representing the safekeeping by the Holy Spirit of the graces bestowed on the Christian at Baptism.

All baptized persons can and should be confirmed. The effect of the Sacrament of Confirmation is to give strength in faith and for the practice of faith.

As a faith community we are encouraged to pray for our Confirmation candidates as they begin to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday 13th September.

Mary MacKillop International Missions Fund– Used Postage Stamp Collection

Do you have used postage stamps that you can donate to fight poverty? Your used stamps can be recycled to help the poor. This activity will run for the whole term and is very simple. Just cut the stamps off the envelopes, leaving a generous margin and bring them into school. Each class has a plastic sleeve to place the collected stamps in.

Your used stamps, that you would generally throw out, can be recycled to help the poor in outback Australia and in countries like East Timor and Peru.

During 2015 $34,500 was raised and since this this initiative began in 2001 $125,000 has been raised to help the Sister's of Mary MacKillop International.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Father's Day Liturgy – Friday 2nd September

Our Father's Day Liturgy will be held at 9:15am on Friday 2nd September. This liturgy will be led by Year 1. Following the liturgy you are welcome to visit your child's classroom which will then conclude with a Hot Food Lunch (note and order form will be sent home Friday).

2016 Religious Literacy Assessment

Under the direction of Bishop Anthony and the Parramatta Diocesan Schools Board, all Year 4 and Year 6 students in Primary and Year 8 and Year 10 students in Secondary will participate in a Diocesan Assessment of their religious literacy. Students in these grades will complete an online assessment during Term 3. The students will answer a series of multiple choice questions related to their learning in Religious Education.

In addition, Year 4 students only will complete a variety of learning tasks related to the Religious Education unit, **Reconciliation: God's Forgiveness and Healing**. Their achievement in completing these tasks will be formally assessed.

A report based on students' completion of these assessments will be forwarded to parents during Term 4.

Mrs Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

LION KING JNR NEWS

Ticket info

Tickets have been selling very well for our upcoming performances. A reminder to send in your ticket orders as soon as possible.
From this coming Monday 30th August, families are welcome to purchase tickets without limit. Don't forget to check the Cast List (attached) for show details Get in quick!!!!!!

Costuming details

Please see below what each grade is asked to provide to wear for their costume in our musical. These items of clothing will be needed for Tuesday 13th September (Dress Rehearsals) and for your child's matinee and evening performance.

Kindergarten / Year 1	**Bright Coloured T-Shirts**	**Jeans or Dark Pants**
Year 2	**Brown or Green T-Shirts**	**Jeans or Dark Pants**
Year 3	**White or Black T-Shirts**	**Jeans or Dark Pants**
Year 4	**Blue T-Shirt / Shirt**	**Blue Jeans**
Year 5	**Brown or Black Shirt**	**Dark Pants**
Year 6	**Brown or Black Shirt**	**Dark Pants**
Choir	**All Black**	**Dark Pants**

Grades are working hard in class at creating masks, headpieces and additional items to assist with their costume.

Principal Cast members and Dancers will be given separate information as soon as possible.

Scenery and Props Working Bee

A very big thank you to Mrs Schafer for co-ordinating our working bee on Monday (pictures attached). We were very fortunate to tick off a lot of painting jobs within one day due to the efforts of the following family members who came to assist! Thank you to Lisa Schafer, Aly Petulla, Jessica Haaring, Skip Sprankel, Veronica Neal, Michelle Bachtis, Karyn Tierney and Jenny Inskip.

Yours from Pride Rock,
Mr. Brad Carroll and Mrs. Margaret Meehan

LION KING Jnr CASTING

	YELLOW *Wed 14th Sept- 12pm matinee* *Thurs 15th Sept- 6pm evening*	GREEN *Thurs 15th Sept - 12pm matinee* *Fri 16th Sept - 6pm evening*
I Just Can't Wait...	YEAR 1	KINDY
Hakuna Matata	2A	2M
Circle of Life	3W	3M
He Lives In You	4BL	4M
Be Prepared	5G	5PM
Stampede	6Mc	6M
Young Simba/Simba	James Rowan/ Nick Cheam	Lachlan Heather/ Olivia Ashton
Young Nala/Nala	Sarah James/ Isabella Smith	Sienna Murphy/ Georgia Bullock
Scar	Ky Breust	Grace Allen
Mufasa	Francesco Licastro	Brayden King
Rafiki	Isabella Redmond	Abbey Keane
Sarabi	Lily Loughland Larsen	Violet Neal
Sarafina	Hannah Selby	Olivia Williams
Zazu	Hayden Walsh	Stefania Saliba
Timon	Javier Turner	Romy Edgar
Pumbaa	Oliver Zakostelsky	Zack McGillicuddy
Shenzi	Skye Real	Ella Grennell
Banzai	Lachlan Harris	Ella Carroll
Ed	Xavier Whalen	Thomas Volkiene
Shadow Dancer	Jorja Bowman	
Lionesses	Monique Heidtmann, Chloe Proud, Grace Hicks, Talei Simmons	
Mouse / Scar's guards	Josh Camilleri / Billy Woodburn	
	CHOIR / DANCERS	

Netball Gala Day

The St Nicholas Netball Gala Day was held on Tuesday 23rd August and we were very lucky the rain stayed away! We took 74 students in total and they represented our school with pride and positive sportsmanship. A HUGE thank you to our wonderful team of parent coaches and managers who dedicated their day to making sure our students experienced the joy of team sports. In particular, thank you:

8 Years Blue: Tabatha Knowles / Helen Stapleton
8 Years White: Emma Bellman / Catherine King
9 Years: Jacinta Selby / Meagan Geyer
10 Years: Suzie Jameson / Colleen Corcoran
11 Years: Tracey Marsh / Erin Carroll
12 Years: Natalie Sibbald
Senior Boys Blue: Lee Woodburn
Senior Boys White: Rachel Townsend / Rachel Sullivan

and Mike and Jen Hicks who generously loaned their Outback shade shelter for the day. Thank You!

Congratulations to our two 8 years teams, who took home 1st and 2nd place in their pool! Well Done also to the 9 years team AND the 10 years team who walked away with gold medals! Amazing result to have MacKillop on top in three age groups! But the aim of the game is FUN and we all had a lot of that!

Zone Athletics Carnival

The Zone Athletics Carnival took place at Blacktown International Sports Park last week and was a wonderful day in glorious sunshine. Our team of 40 competitors wore the MacKillop singlets with pride and gave it their all. Congratulations to the Junior Girls Relay team: Amber S, Ava D, Judith G and Jorja B and to the Senior Boys Relay Team: Francesco L, Mitchell H, Marcus B and Uaale E. Both teams have qualified for the Diocesan Carnival on Friday. Furthermore, we had some individual success with the following students also heading off to compete for Nepean Zone on Friday: Jarred H, Rafferti G, Judith G, Amber S, Layla B, Sienna M, Mitchell H and Uaale E. It is with enormous praise we congratulate our THREE age champions on the day: Judith G, Mitchell H and Uaale E! What an enormous effort and achievement to be awarded the age champion at a Zone Carnival, competing against all the other Catholic school in the Nepean area! Finally, some more outstanding news, Year Six student Uaale E broke the 100m Nepean Zone record with a time of 12.5 seconds! That is just amazing Uaale and super impressive. We are very proud of you and all our athletes. We wish you the best of luck for the next level on Friday.

Miss Maryanne McNally
Sport Coordinator

Year Six Voice of Youth Competition

The annual Voice of Youth Competition is a public speaking contest involving Year Six students from across the Parramatta Diocese. The Year Six students have been writing, editing, timing, preparing, practising, perfecting and presenting their speeches since late last term and we are extremely proud of how far they have come. On Monday, we held the school final and 14 Year Six students were selected to present their speech to a Year Five audience and four tough judges. In the end the judges were able to select our three winners who will represent St Mary MacKillop at the Voice of Youth Cluster Final at Bethany Primary School next week. Congratulations to Abbey K, Alysha H and Lily L.L and to Oliver Z who was selected as a reserve. We are looking forward to journeying to Bethany next week to support our fine public speakers. Well Done to all our Year Six students for participating in what can be a very nerve racking and daunting experience!

Miss Maryanne McNally and Mrs Margaret Meehan
Year Six Teachers

P & F News

P&F meeting – We had our Term 3 P&F meeting on Tuesday night, thank you to the P&F members & parents who attended, your continual support is appreciated.
Mr Siciliano updated us on the canteen which is coming along nicely, just waiting on the gate at the top of the stairs to be installed which we believe should be happening in the next couple of weeks.

Father's Day Stall – Just a reminder our Father's Day stall will be held at the school next Thursday 1st September, we require Parent Helpers to sell items on the day so if you are available this would be greatly appreciated. It's also a great opportunity to meet other parents and members of the current P&F committee. Please indicate your availability on the note sent home. If you are able to assist with wrapping gifts on Monday, 29th August we will be doing so in the hall from 9am-12pm. Any help is greatly appreciated!

Bargain Buyers Shopping Trip – Mrs Bryant is working very hard to put together this year's shopping trip fundraiser which is being held on Saturday 8th October. If you are interested to joining us for this fun filled shopping day please contact **Fiona Bryant on 0412279919 or fionaw@smartchat.net.au** as seats are limited.

I'd like to finish off by saying thank you to our parents, families and school community for their continual support. It's been a very successful year already.

That's all from the P&F Team!

Michelle Darwen
President
On behalf of P&F Executive Team

6M Poetry

Staying up all night

By Angelo M

Midnight
I'm Tired
Playing xbox
Pizza boxes
On the couch
eyes dropping
TV blaring
I can't stop staring
Brain talking
Telling me
To stop
I don't wanna
But my eyes
Are closing
And I'm asleep
ZZZ

LOST

Music Beating
BOOM!BOOM!BOOM!
Lost!
AH! WOH!
Nowhere to go

People Everywhere
LOUD PUMPING NOISE
WOO! WOO!
Lost!

HELP! HELP!
Someone?
Anyone?
Please?
NO-ONE
STILL -
No one

BY HARRY HICKS

Death

by Grace 6M

Wailing widows whimpering
He was a good man,
Didn't deserve to die,
But he did.
Decisions, decisions, decisions
Good, or bad?
Taken from us
Gone, but not forgotten
Rest in Peace
Whyyyyyyyy?!?!
Taken before our very own eyes
Sadness.
Alone.
Depressed.
Grieving relatives at the cemetery
Crying.
Wailing.
Regretting.
Waving goodbye

6M Poetry

POKEMON GO!

By oscar too

Nerds all around,
Throwing Pokeballs at the ground,
Pikachus and all,
Trapped in that Pokeball,

This game of nerdy fiction,
Sure to give you an addiction,
I'm not so sure,
About your 12 year old daughter
She might be distracted,
And fall in the WATER!!!
SPPLLAASSHH!!!

Don't get me wrong,
It's an awesome game,
'Cos when you start playing,
Life won't be the same!

People always say,
Team Instinct is my wife!
Seriously dude,
Get a real life!

There's only 3 words,
For pokemon go!
Those 3 words

Netball

By Violet Neal

Players and umpires, 30 seconds
Our coach thinks we'll win, well so she reckons
I place my feet behind the line
Looking mighty fine

We drive forward and call
Hoping to receive the ball
I pass the ball into the circle
Wait! Whoops I passed it to purple

It's now in the other team
Oh gosh I feel so mean

I wait for the perfect chance for an intercept
It works, literally perfect

'Stepping' yells the umpire
My legs are on fire

That was fun
But now it's done!

!!FOOD!!

A poem by Oliver Zakostelsky 6M

YUM! YUM! YUM!
so many foods
Cookies, burgers and more
Ice-cream, chocolate and fudge
ooh sooo great
foods so great
NUMBER#1
Hot, cold, warm
chips with sauce
soooo many foods to try
at your supermarket
Woollies,Coles and Aldi
food is soooo great
even better with a drink
coffee and donut
chips and beer
food is so yummy
Food is my best friend

Dates for Your Diary Term 3- 2016

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	26 August	9:15am 2:20pm	Diocesan Athletics Carnival @ Blacktown Kindergarten Liturgy Whole School Assembly & 4M Item
Monday	29 August	9am—12pm	Miss McNally @ EMU Opal Day Mrs Harman & Miss Jones @ Beginning Teacher Day @ Benedict XVI Retreat Centre Father's Day Wrapping in Hall
Tuesday	30 August		Mrs Harman & Miss Jones @ Beginning Teacher Day @ Benedict XVI Retreat Centre
Thursday	1 September	11:15am	Voice of Youth Cluster—Year 6 at Bethany Primary
Friday	2 September	9:15am 2:20pm	Father's Day Liturgy Whole School Assembly & 5G/5PM Assembly Item
Monday	5 September		Kindergarten Excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm
Wednesday	7 September	3:15pm	Kids Can Act Parent Showcase
Friday	9 September	2:20pm 4pm & 4:30pm	Whole School Assembly & KA/KH Item Confirmation Practice
Tuesday	13 September	9:30am 12pm	Lion King Jnr Yellow Dress Rehearsal Lion King Jnr Green Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday	14 September	12:00pm	Lion King Jnr Matinee (Yellow)
Thursday	15 September	12:00pm 6:00pm	Lion King Jnr Matinee (Green) Lion King Jnr Evening Session (Yellow)
Friday	16 September	2:20pm 6:00pm	Whole School Assembly Lion King Jnr Evening Session (Green)
Monday	19 September		MacKillop Athletics Carnival @ Homebush
Friday	23 September	2:20pm	Stage 3 Touch Gala Day @ Kingsway St Marys Whole School Assembly **Term 3 CONCLUDES—SCHOOL RESUMES MONDAY, 10th October 2016**

St Mary MacKillop Shopping Bus Tour Fundraiser

Dear Parents and Friends,

St Mary MacKillop Parent and Friends Committee is organising a Shopping bus tour as a fundraiser for the school! Last years bus trip was a huge success. It is a great opportunity to purchase Xmas presents, make great savings on purchases whilst enjoying the company of great people! ☺

Shopping Highlights

- Home and Gift Warehouse
- Manchester Imports
- Men's, Women's and Children's Clothing
- Handbag Factory
- KB Toys
- Nuts and chocolate Warehouse
- Sullivans Clothing

Date: Saturday 8 October 2016
Time: 7am, to 6.30pm approx. leaving and returning from St Mary MacKillop Primary School– 150 Fragar Road South Penrith.
Cost: $40 per person, includes morning and afternoon tea

Seats are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment (This includes the hire of the bus and Hostess with Bargain Buyers. Lunch is not provided so remember to bring something to keep you going! Cold drinks will be sold on the bus)

To book your seat please contact **Fiona Bryant** on **0412 279919** or **fionaw@smartchat.net.au** payment needs to be prepaid either by contacting Fiona Bryant or leaving the money at the school in a envelope marked 'shopping trip'