



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop Primary School,

ST MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY

As we approach our school feast day tomorrow, I would like to share the charism of the Josephite Sisters, which St Paul calls the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In any group, the charisms expressed will depend on how the founders, Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods, established the group and what they were trying to express.

When people share in the “charism” of the founders, it means more than people identifying with them. We believe that the gift given by the Spirit to the founders impels people to use that same gift in carrying out Jesus’ mission in their new circumstances. “Charism” then can be understood as a gift of the Spirit, given to persons and taken up by a group to carry out the mission of Jesus, having characteristics in their way of being and serving which mirror a particular experience of God’s presence in our world.

In our own circumstances as for Mary, can we perceive a call for us:

- to respect for each and every person;
- to care for people who are poor or who are in any kind of need;
- to get in and do what is ours to do, and all we can do;
- to let God’s love for every person be our guide in every challenge;
- to nurture our belonging within the Church, the Body of Christ, and to co-operate with the leaders and the people. Mary MacKillop’s last words to her Sisters were, “Go on!” Let’s go!

‘There , where you are you will find God,’ these words of Mary MacKillop in 1871 and the teaching of Julian Tension Woods *‘for us to have faith in God’s presence in ‘every circumstance’*, sums up what Spirituality is for the Sisters of St Joseph. Wherever we are, in town or country, city or across the seas, we trust that we will find God’s meaning, purpose and vitality daily in whatever we do; that we will draw on the strength and resilience of God’s love, live simply, engage with others to meet human needs, be advocates for the voiceless, care for the earth, wonder at nature and create homely communities.

The Josephite charism brings a particular flavour to the church's rich prayer and devotional tradition. The Josephites name Mary the Mother of God, Joseph her husband and John the Baptist, as models of faithful service in the name of Christ. These three patrons are symbolised in the Josephite emblem - the badge that identifies a Josephite Sister. Like Mary who pondered the Word of God with a listening heart we who follow in the way of Mary MacKillop are encouraged to seek Jesus in their daily lives. I am looking forward to celebrating our St Mary MacKillop School feast day on Friday.



SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF ICT & SOCIAL MEDIA

At Saint Mary MacKillop Primary School technology is used to enhance learning. These guidelines support safe and responsible use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and social media. I encourage all parents to use these guidelines as a teaching tool for their children about safe and mature digital citizenship and support student - school communication.

When I using technology children should:

- use the computer or mobile device for learning
- keep their password safe
- study and research for information relevant to their subjects
- look after the technology and related area
- ask the teacher if they're not sure how to use ICT
- tell the teacher if they learn something interesting
- ask for permission if they are unsure about sharing information with people over the internet
- complete tasks and assignments set by the teacher
- treat others the way they'd like to be treated
- keep safe online
- keep their password safe and secret - even from friends
- tell the teacher if they see something that they think is inappropriate or makes them feel unsafe
- use the files, programs, internet or email as shown by their teacher
- never use ICT or the CEDP network disrespectfully, dishonestly or unlawfully.
- never say or do things that they wouldn't like others to do or say to them
- never use social networking (like Facebook, Beebo, Twitter, YouTube) until they are 13 years old
- never access sites meant for people in older age groups than them
- never share their full name or send their photo without permission
- never share other people's full name or send their photo without permission
- never bully, harass, make derogatory or untrue remarks that embarrass others
- never use the network to download images, movies, music or applications for personal use
- never use other people's accounts to access ICT services
- never permit apps or sites to gather information about them (eg contact details, location information) without teacher approval



Once again I encourage all parents to use these guidelines as a teaching tool for their children about safe use of technology and to discuss the consequences of inappropriate usage.

Congratulations Mrs Devlin:

Congratulations to Mrs Liz Devlin on her permanent appointment as Assistant Principal at Bethany Catholic School.

Mr Cauchi seconded to St Finbar's Glenbrook:

Mr Steve Cauchi has been assigned to St Finbar's Primary School, Glenbrook as Assistant Principal until the end of the 2015 school year, commencing 17 August. We congratulate Mr Cauchi on his appointment and wish him all the very best. During this period of time, we welcome Ms Sue Tripp, who will be joining us at St Mary MacKillop as Acting Assistant Principal.

Thought for the Week

*"Happiness does not depend on what you have or who you are;
it solely relies on what you think"*

Buddha

Have a Blessed Week

Mr Michael Siciliano
PRINCIPAL

Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Saturday 8 August: Mary MacKillop's Story 1842 - 1909

On January 15, 1842 Mary MacKillop was born of Scottish parents, Alexander MacKillop and Flora MacDonald 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 but through ill health had returned to Scotland until 1835 when he migrated to Australia with his parents. Unfortunately, he 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 for Sands and Kenny (now Sands and MacDougall), and as a teacher at the Portland school. While acting as a governess to her uncle's children at Penola, Mary met Father Julian Tenison Woods who, with a parish of 56,000 square kilometres, needed help in the religious education of children in the outback. At the time Mary's family depended on her income so she was not free to follow her dream. However, 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. She also opened Orphanages, Providences to care for the homeless and destitute both young and old, and Refuges for ex-prisoners and ex-prostitutes who wished to make a fresh start in life.

Throughout her life, Mary met with opposition from people outside the Church and even from some of those within it. In the most difficult of times she consistently 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. Since then the Congregation has grown and now numbers about 900, working mainly in Australia and New Zealand but also scattered singly or in small groups around the world. The "Brown Joeys" may be seen in big city schools, on dusty bush tracks, in modern hospitals, in caravans, working with the "little ones" of God - the homeless, the new migrant, the Aboriginal, the lonely and the unwanted, in direct care and in advocacy, in standing with and in speaking with. In their endeavours to reverence the human dignity of others and to change unjust structures, the Sisters and those many others who also share the Mary MacKillop spirit continue the work which she began.

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. ***(Extract from the Sisters of St Joseph)***

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day Celebrations: Friday 7 August:

This year, to honour our school patron, St Mary MacKillop, we have a fun-filled day planned:

Whole school mass in the hall at 9:15 This mass will be led by Year 4 and all parents, friends and parishioners are warmly invited to join us.

After mass we will hold a **fundraiser for 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.

Our fundraiser will involve each class filling a bucket with coins. These buckets will then be weighed at a whole school 'weigh in.' The class with the heaviest bucket will win a prize – coins can begin coming in from Monday 3 August, so start saving your gold coins now! The coin 'weigh in' 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."

At lunch each student will **receive a donut** organised by our wonderful P & F.

To conclude our Feast Day celebration the **students will watch The Young Mary Show presented by Starrs Productions**.

Please note: There will be no Whole School Assembly on Friday because of the show

The Sacrament of Confirmation:

As many of our students are about to begin preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday 8 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 themselves.

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 symbolise 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 baptised 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 8 September.

Feast of the Assumption: Friday 15 August, 12:00pm Whole School Mass:

Friday 15 August is the Feast of the Assumption, a holy day of obligation. 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 fulfilment 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 hall at 12:00pm. All parents and friends are invited to attend.

Prayer Forms: Creative Prayer:

Throughout last term information was provided, via the newsletter, about the variety of prayer forms the students would be participating in during Whole School Prayer each Friday afternoon. So far the following prayer forms have been detailed: traditional prayer, scripture prayer, prayers from Mass and meditative prayer. I hope you have found the information of interest and perhaps even implemented some of these forms into your personal / family prayer.

Prayer, quite simply, is focussing our attention on God. Prayer is an expression and an extension of Bible truth resident in our souls. Praying can be difficult: you may not know what to pray about, where to start, or which words to use. Sometimes you may feel too tired, or not be in the right 'mood'. Prayer is all about communication with your best friend - the One who always answers (although not always in the way you expect).

Creative prayer is a form of praying that we use regularly with the students. It involves all your senses (seeing, touching, tasting, smelling and and hearing) to engage with God. Some types of creative prayer are:

- music with percussion
- liturgical movements (dance)
- liquid pictures/frozen statues (drama and mime)
- visuals / photos
- poems

There are literally hundreds of ways to communicate - through words, pictures, music... Why not try some with God?

Kind regards,

Mrs Leesa Gillard
Religious Education Coordinator

Year Six Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition

This term Year Six have been busy preparing speeches for the Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition. The students have taken the competition very seriously and produced outstanding speeches on a range of important topics including Homelessness, War, Racism and Health. We have been blown away by the persistence and hard work the students have shown in creating, drafting and perfecting their speeches. On Wednesday, 5 August, we held our school final in the hall. We congratulate the 16 students who qualified for this final. The speeches were judged by a panel of teachers and three winning speakers were chosen. The winning students will represent St Mary MacKillop at the Voice of Youth Cluster Final on Wednesday, 19 August at Bethany Primary School. Congratulations to:

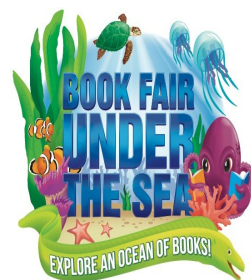
- Jack Burgess - Fitness
- Patrick Rowan - Why Aren't I King?
- Amelia Perri - Refugees
- and our reserve speaker Nicola Willmette - Great Australian History

We look forward to our excursion to Bethany where we will support our representatives and are very proud of all our Year Six students.

Year Six Teachers
Miss Maryanne McNally, Mrs Kimberly Mathewson and Mrs Rachel Paine

Library News

Our **Book Fair** was a huge success once again, we managed to sell more than **\$9000.00** worth of books, enabling us to purchase new resources for our school community. We appreciate your support with this annual fundraiser. Thanks also to the volunteer helpers without whom things would not have run so smoothly, Rebecca Keane, Liz Whalen, Jenny Inskip, Catherine Volkiene, Donna Fox, and our staff who also helped out with crowd control on the day we thank you very much!



Please remind students that the **Premiers Reading Challenge** is nearing its end for 2015,

reading records must be submitted by **August 31**. Please see Mrs Eisenhuth if you are having issues with this. We have subscribed to **World Book online** for one year, students have been given details on how to login and we encourage families to use this wonderful resource at home.

Please see more details below:

WORLD BOOK WEB

Good news! Our library now subscribes to the following award winning **World Book Web products**.

- **World Book Kids**—is based on World Book's award winning Discovery Encyclopedia and is designed to give younger students, ESL students and reluctant readers a rewarding online learning experience. The site illustrations, diagrams and maps enrich more than 2,000 articles selected for appeal and relevance.
- **World Book Student**—forms the foundation of an expansive reference database that includes over 40,000 encyclopedia and reference articles, thousands of links to outside web sites selected by World Book editors and contributors. It also includes an extensive Dictionary and Atlas plus audios, visuals and animations.
- **Enciclopedia Estudiantil Hallazgos**—the optimal beginner's Spanish language reference site.
- **World Book Mobile**—a mobile-friendly version of the reference database.

Our World Book subscription allows us to give you and your family access to this valuable reference source at your home computers 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. We are providing this service to you at **no charge!** We hope that your whole family will use the World Book sites often to help with homework, special projects, at-home learning and information seeking.

To access the World Book Web, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to the World Book web site: <http://www.worldbookonline.com>
2. Type in the following user Login ID: **marymac**
3. Password: **marymac**

Please remember that login and password information is for students and their families only, and extending this information to people who do not live within the school district could result in loss of at-home access for our students

Mrs Maree Eisenhuth
Teacher Librarian

Maths Olympiad

Question 5:

Three students each have a different whole number of lollies. If any two of them pair up to share their lollies evenly with each other, the pair of students could be sharing 12, 14 or 18 lollies. What is the total number of lollies that the 3 of them have altogether?

Answer: - Let the numbers of lollies be A, B and C. Then the statement of the problem leads to the following equations: $A + B = 12$ $B + C = 14$ $A + C = 18$

Summing these three equations yields $2A + 2B + 2C = 44$ $2(A + B + C) = 44$ $A + B + C = 22$
Consequently, the three students have a total of 22 lollies.

Question 6:

The letters A, B, C and D represent 2, 3, 5 and 8 (but not necessarily in that order). If $A + B = C$ and $A + D = B$, what is $B \times C$?

Grandparents Day Morning Tea - THANK YOU!!!

A very gracious thank you to all the families from Year 3 and 4 (and everybody else that baked) that helped out with the Grandparent's Day morning tea. All those beautiful parents and friends that assisted with this event are true angels that step up, roll their sleeves up and just get right into helping out wherever it is needed. GOD BLESS YOU.

REWARDS PROGRAMS - Box located at school office for ALL stickers

Don't forget the Rewards programs that are taking place, The **Southlands program** involves collecting 1 sticker for every \$2.50 spent at Southlands specialty stores (ends 14 September) and the **Woolworth Earn and Learn** involves 1 sticker for every \$10 spent at Woolworths (ends 8 September). The P & F have set up a central box in the Front Office so that all you would need to do is place **ALL STICKERS** from both programs in an envelope and send it to school and place them in the box provided. The P & F team will do the rest. Thank you so much for all the families that are making a huge contribution every week.

TRIVIA NIGHT Onesies and PJ Mufti Day FUNDRAISER - THANK YOU

KIDS, YOU ALL LOOKED FABULOUS. Thank you to all the students and families who supported the Trivia Night event last week. Your contribution with the donations was so overwhelming to Mrs Billington and her Trivia Team. The generosity by all the families and teachers is very much appreciated and we are truly thankful. What an amazing team of families we have.

**TICKET ON SALE TODAY!!!!
'MAGIC AT THE MOVIES'
TRIVIA NIGHT 2015
FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Tickets on sale TODAY!!!! Get your group of 8 organised. Prepare yourselves for a night of MOVIE and TELEVISION MAYHEM. GET SET for a night of star student ACTION full of games, questions, nominations and raffle prizes. Purchase your tickets ASAP from our school Front Office. Our last Trivia Night was a SELLOUT!!! So hurry. \$10 per person/ tables of 8.



WATCH THIS SPACE for the Trivia Night raffle tickets and a list of prizes that will be sent home in the coming weeks. Students will also have a chance to win prizes leading up to the event at the Friday assemblies. Watch this space.

Bargain Buyers Shopping Trip - SEATS LIMITED - PAYMENTS REQUIRED

SATURDAY, 10TH OCTOBER, 2015. To reserve and finalise your spot, cost is \$40 for the day (includes morning and afternoon snacks), drinks available for purchase on the bus. Payment is required as soon as possible. Come and join us for a day filled with raffle prizes, bargains and adventure, please contact Fiona Bryant on fionaw@smartchat.net.au.

**Uniform Shop will be open on the following days:
Friday 21 August from 8:30am - 9:00am
Friday 7 September from 2:00pm - 3:00pm**

LOST PROPERTY

Parents, we all know how expensive school uniforms can be to the home budget, however recently there has been many unclaimed items belonging to your children. Please make an effort to come up to the school to claim your child's clothing from the 'Lost Property basket' across from the Kindy and Year 1 classrooms. Once you do claim them, we strongly recommend that you label their clothing.

P & F & CLASS PARENT REPS Meeting - Tuesday, 18 August 2015 @ 7:00pm, School Hall.

Come and join us for the next P & F / Class Parent Rep Meeting taking place on Tuesday, 18 August at 7:00pm in the School Hall. Class parent representatives are your voice at the meetings when you are unable to attend, therefore if there are any general questions that you may have, please advise your CPR. These evenings provide our families with information relating to the P & F events throughout the year. Reports will be supplied from the school Principal, P & F President, Treasurer, Fundraising team and Parent Representative Council members. ALL WELCOME.

God Bless

Liz Whalen
President
On behalf of the P & F Executive Team

Dates for Your Diary Term 3 - 2015

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Friday	7 August	9:15am	The Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass Nepean Zone Athletics
Wednesday	12 August		ICAS Mathematics Competition
Thursday	12 August		Voice of Youth Cluster Final
Friday	14 August	12:00pm 2:20pm	Whole School Mass The Feast of the Assumption Whole School Assembly & 6PM Item
Tuesday	18 August		P & F General Meeting
Wednesday	19 August	11:00am	Voice of Youth Cluster Final @ Bethany Maths Olympiad #4
Thursday	20 August		Infants Tabloid Sports Carnival
Friday	21 August	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 2 Grade Liturgy Diocesan Athletics Carnival @ Blacktown Whole School Assembly & 5M Item
Tuesday	25 August		St Nicholas Netball Gala Day @ Jamison Park
Thursday	27 August		Year 3 Arms of Australia Inn Museum Excursion
Friday	28 August		Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day
Friday	4 September	TBA	Father's Day Liturgy
Friday	14 September		Kindergarten Excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm
Friday	11 September	9:15am 2:20pm 7:00pm	Year 1 Liturgy Whole School Assembly & 1R Item P & F Trivia Night
Thursday	17 September	2:00pm	Talent Quest Showcase
Friday	18 September	2:20pm	Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day @ St Mary's Whole School Assembly & KA Item Last Day of Term 3

Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2015

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Tuesday	6 October		Term 4 Commences
Monday	12 October	2:00pm	2016 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Tuesday	13 October		Year 2 Penrith Lakes Excursion
Monday	19 October	2:00pm	2016 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Monday	26 October	2:00pm	2016 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Tuesday	27 October	7:30pm	P & F Exec. Meeting
Thursday & Friday	29 & 30 October		Year 5 @ Teen Ranch
Monday	2 November	2:00pm	2016 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Wednesday	4 November	9:00-11:00am	2016 Kindergarten Orientation Morning