



Term 4 Week 4

Wednesday 7th November 2018

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DIARY DATES

TERM 4 2018

**Friday
9th Nov** **Remembrance Day Liturgy
10:30am**

**Friday
9th Nov** **Confirmation 7:30pm**

**Monday
12th Nov** **Kinder 2019 Orientation
9:00–11:00am
12:30–2:30pm**

**Tuesday
13th Nov** **Kinder 2019 Orientation
9:00–11:00am
12:30–2:30pm**

**Monday
19th Nov** **Kinder "Sharing our
Learnings" Assembly
2:30pm**

**Tuesday
20th Nov** **Parent Workshop 9:00am
English & Maths**

**Wednesday
21st Nov** **Parent Workshop 9:00am
Coding**

**Wednesday
21st Nov** **Keyboard Concert
6:30pm**

**Monday
26th Nov** **Swimming Program
Commences**

**Friday
7th Dec** **Swimming Program
Concludes**

**Wednesday
12th Dec** **Swimming Carnival**

**Friday
14th Dec** **Reports go home to Parents**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Ever thought of being a saint? No? Not for you? Probably, one person who was declared as a saint in 2010 never thought of being a saint either. St Mary Mackillop was declared a Saint on 17th October in that year. St Mary had uncommon kindness and is an example to us not to forget those people who are the "forgettables" in our world.

The saints are always calling us back to our Christian roots. They are real human beings like us with their own personal problems but who battle on to achieve extraordinary deeds. Because of this, we should not leave them as lifeless statues or stained-glass windows and excuse ourselves from our responsibilities to other people on the pretext that we aren't perfect. The very fact that they are human like us, is a reminder to us of our responsibilities even if we are flawed and imperfect persons.

The following two observations highlight the "ordinary person" of St Mary Mackillop: "We want our saints to be inspiring but to understand the pathways we walk. Mary is a model of human possibility and she worked with what she had available to her and made things happen in a practical, humanly sensitive way." Sister Carroll. "The real Mary Mackillop was, in her youth, a rather photogenic, nice nun who grew up to be a remarkable woman of toughness and imagination in the way she lived her faith. But she was also an old lady in a wheelchair nursing her little dog after her active days were over." Fr Tony Kelly.

Not everyone can be a Mary Mackillop, but we can all do something, if only of a minor nature, to improve the quality of life of disadvantaged and neglected people. The world needs more saints in the making, so that question again: Ever thought of being a saint?

St Mary Mackillop of Australia, may the spirit of your life live on in the lives of Christian people right now. May we, ordinary people like you, be inspired to reach out to needy people as you did. May God's Spirit be powerful in us as it was in the both of you. We particularly remember the children of our Parish who will be confirmed and who are called to be Saints in our prayers this week. Amen.

Peace and Best Wishes.

Richard Blissenden
PRINCIPAL



CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to give a big congratulations to Andriana Simmonds on being a finalist in Julie Owens' (our local Federal Member of Parliament) Christmas Card Design Competition. Well done Andriana!

STUDENT ATTENDANCE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR

As you know we have a school wide goal of student attendance being 92% and through the winter months we managed an average attendance of 92%. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Since returning to school this term our attendance has dropped a little and we are at 89%. Our staff are encouraging each other and the students to "finish strong" this year using the analogy of a Marathon Runner ... Stephen MR Covey talks about when world-class marathon runners 'hit the wall' and they feel like they can't go on. Instead of focusing on their exhaustion and how tired they are feeling and going into the 'survival shuffle', they lift up their head and pick up the pace. I believe this is a vital mind set for us all in schools at this time of the year. By picking up the pace, you are really saying to yourself that you're not just going to finish, you're going to finish strong! So I encourage students to be at school every school day - not to extend weekends to long ones, not to have a day off because we are tired - but to stay home only when sick - and finish the year strong!

HOW DO I DEAL WITH A CONCERN?

Parents and carers are asked to speak directly with staff if issues arise between children from different families rather than approaching that child or their parents directly. The school is well placed to assist in these matters and we thank you for your support.

PLENARY COUNCIL

Included with today's newsletter is a flyer which contain information about the Plenary Council of 2020. There is also a website with further information on the Council and this is located at www.parracatholic.org/haveyoursay

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



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|-------------|---|
| November 9 | Ewan Jung
Elly Hwang |
| November 12 | Samuel Nassima |
| November 14 | Luke Marnan |
| November 15 | Laura Oh |
| November 16 | Hayden Green
Tara Quinn
Jacob Hayes |
| November 17 | Daniel Rust |
| November 20 | Olivia Marshall |

We would like to wish all of these children a very happy birthday!!

PRINCIPAL AWARDS
TERM 4—Week 3



- | | |
|-----|---|
| KA | Siena Chisari & Paris Sclavos |
| 1R | Renae Adams, Lucas Nassima & Manuel Sabella |
| 1W | Yomika Dodampegama & Elly Hwang |
| 2H | Brody Newby & Mia Lucas-Brown |
| 2M | Olivia Boumalhab & Lester Wu |
| 3G | Natasha Smith & Misa Simili |
| 3S | Isabel Kable & Genevieve Boumalhab |
| 4J | Connor Percovich & Aavya Younes |
| 4K | Kaisei Doggett & Luke Porter |
| 5E | Ana Ogrizek & David Kochan |
| 5LV | Emma Adams & London Ardeleanu |
| 6B | Philippe Jendrouch & Sophia Bartosiak |
| 6K | Jonas Pellegriti & Jacob Zaouk |

CARE AWARDS
TERM 4—Week 3



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|-----|--|
| KA | Amanda Bae & Harry Gilroy |
| 1R | Maisie Taylor, Oscar Libbert & Xavier Cooper |
| 1W | Lara Kable & Oliver Hill |
| 2H | Michael Kim & Olivia Ribera |
| 2M | Jacinta Boustani & Benjamin Lambert |
| 3G | Benjamin Rust & Alyssa Tetto |
| 3S | Jessica Anlezark & Kiara Zwatzrka |
| 4J | Max Ghest & Kayla Ghalloub |
| 4K | Aidan Marcellino & Isla Ballout |
| 5E | Zoe Anderson & Joshua Green |
| 5LV | Marcus Schembri-Green & Brianna Ward |
| 6B | Jack White & Sanjana Norris |
| 6K | Raymond Zhang & Kelly Stevens |

RUSS THE BUS...

Russ The Bus visited Year 3 and 4 recently. On board was author, Sandy Fussell, a driver and host. Russ The Bus is an initiative of the Sydney Writers Festival and visits schools all over NSW after the Festival. Our students were invited to board the bus and choose a free book, in which Sandy wrote a personal message for each student. She then spoke with the students about reading and writing. It was a fantastic experience for our students – here they are enjoying the visit!



DRESS TO EXPRESS - Thursday 15th November



On Thursday 15th November, our school will be joining hundreds of schools around Australia to promote positive body image with a Love Your Body day! We will be asking students to "Dress to Express" by wearing a hat that expresses who they are.

This may be a favourite hat, a crazy hat, a cultural hat, a sporting team's cap, or a hat made at home.

"Dress to Express" encourages students to celebrate who they are and what their body can do. It's about celebrating strengths, passions, cultural diversity and individuality.

Love Your Body Week is an annual campaign of The Butterfly Foundation and asks people of all ages to reflect on the relationship they have with their body and to celebrate amazing things their body can do. It promotes body acceptance and diversity and encourages people to engage in behaviours that are positive and respectful to themselves, their body and also to others.

For more information www.butterflyfoundation.org.au/love_your_body_week.

JOIN THE BAND...



Is your child interested in joining the school band? The school band is now taking enrolments for 2019 and is open to all students currently in years 2-5. No prior experience is required.

In Term 4 students will see a demonstration concert at school that highlights the different instruments available for tuition. They will receive a green School Band Program note providing introductory information.

What do you need to do? Return the expression of interest from the bottom of the green note to try a variety of instruments with trained music tutors, to help your child find the instrument to which they are best suited. The results of this instrument trial will be sent home with comprehensive enrolment information.

Learning an instrument in an ensemble is a great way to experience the social, educational and personal benefits that music and the arts have to offer! TSA provides a quality instrumental program, with full ensemble rehearsals, great value tuition and rent-to-buy instrument hire.

For more information on your school instruction program, please contact TSA.



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Catherine McAuley Westmead

Enrolments for Year 7 2020

Catherine McAuley Westmead is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2020. The closing date for Year 7 2020 applications 1st round offers is Friday, 22nd March 2019.

Parents and their daughters have the opportunity to tour the school campus at one of our upcoming school tours specifically for Year 7 2020 applicants, but open to any year group.

Monday 26th November and Thursday 6th December 2018
9.15 – 11:00am

These mornings will provide parents and students with the opportunity to tour our school on a normal school day. You will be able to view our school grounds and facilities, go into classrooms and meet our students and teachers. Enrolment packs will be available on the day. Please note that following these tours there will be no other school tours held until our Open Afternoon.

Contact our School Reception on 9849 9100 to book a place on a school tour.

Save The Date – The Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Afternoon will be held from 4.00pm – 7.00pm on Tuesday 12th March 2019.