Greetings,

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Monday next week we will be celebrating the life of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop in a whole school Mass at 9.00am.

Mary MacKillop is our first ever Australian Saint. Pope Benedict formally recognised Mary’s good works and miracles and bestowed on her the title of Saint on the 17th October 2010.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop was a strong woman who was devoted to God. She was moved by the problems of the poor and thought that with God’s help she could do something about it. During her time Mary set up the first Catholic schools for the poor. In these schools she not only taught children to read and write, but fed and clothed them. She also founded a new religious order called the Sisters of St Joseph who helped her run the schools. The Sisters of St Joseph came to East Gosford and established St Patrick’s Primary School and was instrumental in the establishment of St Joseph’s College. The Sisters of St Joseph remain an order to this day.

It was not always easy for Mary. She came up against a lot of opposition, even from people that should have helped her. However during even her darkest moments, Mary’s faith in God remained strong. She always turned to God and asked for guidance. On Monday, join us with us as we celebrate and thank God for our Australian Saint and ask St Mary of the Cross MacKillop to pray for us and our school community and to inspire us to do as she did.

Year 3 Family Mass

What a beautiful Family Mass Year 3 celebrated with the Parish last Sunday. Lots of children and families joined in the Eucharistic celebration. The children read and participated beautifully in Mass. It was lovely to celebrate with Mrs Rhonda Jenkins, Mrs Jenny Jenkins, Mrs Mandell, Mrs Lewis and Ms Perry. Mr Frazer shared his talents; providing music the children know and enjoy. What a blessing! It was a great way to begin the week!

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This term, those children who are 8 years old or older and have been Baptised and Confirmed will be able to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation; receiving God’s great love and forgiveness. It makes it extra special for those children, particularly as we are in the Year of Mercy. The Parent Information Session for Reconciliation Programme is NEXT WEDNESDAY the 10th August 2016. Tea and coffee will be served at 7.00pm and the session starts at 7.30pm. Come and join us for a coffee before it begins!
What’s on:
Week 4
  St Mary of the Cross, MacKillop Mass, 9.00am Monday 8th August 2016
  Reconciliation Information Night, 7.30pm Wednesday the 10th August 2016
Week 5
  Reconciliation Classes begin (Tuesday and Thursday)
  Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass, 9.00am Monday the 15th August 2016
Week 6
  Year 4 Parish Family Miss, Sunday the 28th September 2016, 9.00am

Go gently with Christ
Jacqueline Fletcher, Religious Education Coordinator

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL
Dear Parents and students,

A very big thank you to all the Grandparents and Parents who attended our Grandparents Mass and celebration last Friday. It was wonderful to see so many here to celebrate with us.

Earlier this year the Catholic Schools Office organised for a maintenance report to be completed for our school. Although there are a number of items that need looking at, the CSO has approved work to the value of $500000. One of the first items that has commenced is a PA System for both sites, which is very exciting. The other items will be looked at by a builder to organise the scope of the work. I am most grateful to the CSO for their support of the school.

As well, the CSO has given the school support to purchase some new technology for the school. This will mean that we will have a bank of laptops to be used by classes and a small number of devices in each classroom, with Chrome Books for the Infants and ipads for the Primary. These devices are just arriving in the school this term.

So as you can see we have some exciting things happening for our students and teachers.

Jesus, my Teacher, guide me along your way, and help me to piece together the jigsaw of life in your kingdom. When I make decisions, lead me to the heart of the matter, and when I face conflict, do not let my own panic frown out the still, small voice of your wisdom.

Author Unknown
Next week our parish is beginning the ‘Catholics Returning Home Programme’. This programme is for those Catholics who have felt distanced from their church, and would like to know more about the Catholic Church today. The programme commences on 8th August at 7.30pm in the Jordan Room.

There is also the Parish 3 Day Retreat commencing on 5th September and a wonderful programme for men called ‘Men Alive’ Weekend on 22nd October.

There is an information meeting for those parents whose children will be making their Reconciliation on Wednesday 10th August at 7.30pm.

Next week we have our school photos on Wednesday and the students are asked to wear their winter school uniform, except we are asking that the girls wear their short white socks only for the photos. Boys please wear your long sleeve shirts with tie.

Dont forget to bring your evelope back on the day.

Thank you for your continued support

Cheryl Walsh
Principal

Dates to remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td>10 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3 ends</td>
<td>23 Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4 begins</td>
<td>10 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4 ends</td>
<td>16 December (Step up for 2017) (last day for Pupils)</td>
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Term 1 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff return</td>
<td>Monday 30 January 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yrs1-6 Mathematic Assessment Interviews</td>
<td>30 January 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yrs 1-6 Mathematic Assessment Interviews</td>
<td>31 January 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder 2017 Best Start</td>
<td>30,31 January &amp; 1 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yrs 1-6 Return to school</td>
<td>1 February 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder First Day of School</td>
<td>2 February 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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![Stand up and be counted](image)

YOUR YES IN THIS CENSUS MATTERS

Mark your religion on the 2016 census
Year 4 at the Zoo

Ding! Ding! Ding! Alarms all around East Gosford went off at about 5:30am on Wednesday morning. Many excited Year 4 children heard it, jumped out of bed because today was the day that they were going to Taronga Zoo. They quickly dressed and arrived at school at about 6:30am to meet their bleary eyed teachers. It was still dark!

Some of the highlights of the day were…

The day was great despite the rain. We also learnt lots about the Yellow Bellied Glider and how to create some awe some projects to raise awareness about the Glider.

Meeting and spending time with mentors from St. Joseph’s and St. Edward’s.

Having an encounter the baby Yellow Bellied Glider who we are trying to protect. Seeing some other animals in the zoo like the giraffe.

Finding it really hard to concentrate on the zoo staff during a presentation. The seals were showing off behind the zoo keepers and we were too busy watching the seals.

Extracting the DNA from a strawberry.

The day was great despite the rain. We also learnt lots about the Yellow Bellied Glider and how to create some awesome projects to raise awareness about the Glider.
LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

With the opening ceremony of the 2016 Rio Olympics this weekend, St Patrick's is getting in the spirit and hosting our very own Olympics! On Monday students will find out the country they will represent and each day they will have the opportunity to work for medals awarded in their class and on the playground based around our PBL. Thank you to our SRC for putting together the medal list based on character traits each athlete needs to be successful including: staying focussed, taking pride in your work and teamwork.

Over the next 16 days, St Patrick's will keep a close on the medal tally which will culminate in a 'mini olympics' session and a closing ceremony on Tuesday 30th August. More information will be sent home in coming weeks. **Let the games begin!**

CONCERT CORNER

Information regarding costumes for our concert (week 8) was sent home this week - please keep and eye out for it. Please find a copy at the end of this newsletter. We have kept the class costumes simple and their are items that will need to come from home and accessories that school will supply (please see highlighting). Year 2 and Year 6 please refer to your special note.

If you have any questions regarding the costumes please chat to your class teacher. Costumes for the Drama Club students are being gathered and will be communicated separately.

Our dance items, being prepared with Miss Michelle, are coming along well and we look forward to putting on a show for you!

If you can sew and can help please call Maria in the office 4325 1159.

FROM THE MUSIC ROOM: WITH MRS SUZIE MORRIS

**CHORESTRA:** Notes went home this week for our Combined Catholic Schools Choral Day on 19th August - please make sure these are returned to Mrs Morris by Wednesday 10 August.

**POSTPONED - PRESBYTERIAN AGED CARE CENTRE PERFORMANCE**

Due to a scheduling problem, the choir performance at the Presbyterian Aged Care Centre on 18 August will be postponed.

**KINDY MUSIC:** This term across all classes we have a focus on learning about orchestral music and the orchestra. Kindy have been focussing on the string family and we have been listening to classical music, drawing instruments and even got to try to play the violin - it was harder than it looks!
Premiers Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following children who completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge over the last few weeks: Remi, Isabella, Philip, Josie, Tasman, Abel, Eliza, Alishba and Charlie in 1B; Joanna, Lily and Abiel in 1G; Joey and Lauren in 2B; Vito in 2G; Will and Rania in 3B; Alyssa, Christian, Tadi, Emily S and Patrick in 3G; Finn in 4G; Katie in 4B; Tom, Emma and Molly in 5G; James and Spencer in 5B and Ruby in 3-6 Aqua. We also congratulate all the children in Kinder Blue, Kinder Gold and K-2A they completed the challenge with their teachers! Well Done Readers!

Please keep in mind that The school cut off date to return completed Reading Logs is 15th August, 2016. If your child has only a few books missing from the reading log return the reading log and I will add the books we have read at school.

ICAS : International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

Students from St Patrick’s achieved outstanding results when they participated in ICAS Digital Technologies and Science this year. Those children whose achievements were outstanding were rewarded with certificates of High Distinction, Distinction, Credit and Merit.

In Digital Technologies Anish in 3B received a certificate of Distinction, certificates of Credit were awarded to Lachlan in 4G, Thomas P in 4B, Juan Jose in 4G, Ella in 5B, Andy in 5G and Christopher in 6G; certificates of Merit were awarded to Emma in 5G, Isabella G in 5B, Noah in 5G and Gemma in 6B.

In Science a certificate of High Distinction was awarded to Spencer in 5B, certificates of Distinction were awarded to Anish in 3G, Christian V in 3G and Brien in 5G; certificates of Credit were awarded to Ben A in Year 3G, Owen in 3B, Andy in 5G, Brodie in 6B, Gemma in 6B and Mahidi in 6G; certificates of Merit were awarded to Thomas P in 4B, Agatha in 6G and Denzel in 6B.

Great results for all these children.

Carmen Hartz
Teacher Librarian

CAN YOU SEW? Please contact Maria in the office if you can help with sewing for the concert (simple seams etc).

CARE GROUP

Thank you to the Care Group volunteers who once again helped a family with meals. All meals were very much appreciated by the family, who wished to pass on their thanks.

FOUND - Girls Silver Charm Bracelet. Please phone Maria 4325 1159 if it is yours.
A huge thank you to Bonnie's parents, Mr and Mrs Brown, for winning the bid for a special morning tea with Ms Perry at our school trivia night! 2G enjoyed decorating their own cupcakes...especially eating the part!! A special thank you to Ms Perry for her fabulous baking.
Out and about in the Playground
It was all about rocks this week
ST. PATRICK’S 2ND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Opening dates for 2016
8.30am – 9.30am

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND CLEAN UNIFORM INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. YOUR DONATION IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED.

“CASH ONLY”

Call Pakistan on 042435073 or THE SCHOOL OFFICE 43051159

TUNING IN TO KIDS
Emotionally Intelligent Parenting
A six session parenting program for parents of primary school children.

Would you like to learn how to:
• Be better at talking with your child?
• Be better at understanding your child?
• Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
• Help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
• Teach your child to deal with conflict?

Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence. Children with higher emotional intelligence:

• Have greater success with making and keeping friends
• Have better concentration at school
• Are more able to calm down when upset or angry
• Tend to have fewer childhood illnesses

Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!

Where
St Patrick’s Primary School
York Street, East Gosford

Commening
Thursday, 4th August 2016
(continuing for 6 weeks)

Time
9.00-11.30am

Registration Essential
4325 1159
RSVP by 26/7/16
To Michelle Perry

Free

Learn to play the guitar
@ St Patrick’s

learn to play | read music | interesting repertoire
have fun | solo | ensemble groups | performances

Contact the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music
for group lessons with tutor Steve Smiley:
or contact Steve Smiley on 0410 039 556

Contact private tutor Greg Taylor for lessons:
Mobile: 0405359840 and Email: bbks@bigpond.com

Learn to play the keyboard
@ St Patrick’s

learn to play | read music | interesting repertoire
have fun | solo | ensemble groups | performances

Contact the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music
for one-on-one lessons with tutor Sharon Hatton:

Contact private tutor Lily Naulu for group lessons:
Mobile: 0425263708 and Email: naulu@yahoo.com.au

Order your new Entertainment™ Membership now!
# Canteen Roster for Term 3 2016

The RED shaded areas/writing show where we need volunteers. Please call/text Ange Stitt on 0409 362 217 if you can fill any of these dates. Thank you!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Infants</th>
<th>Primary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Wednesday 10(^{th}) August</td>
<td>Marcus Hams</td>
<td>Sadie Haldeouk</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 12(^{th}) August</td>
<td><strong>NEED X 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Canteen will be closed if we do not have any volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Joslyn Botelho</td>
<td>Hajni Kevi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Wednesday 17(^{th}) August</td>
<td>Vanessa Jarman</td>
<td>Annabel Cockerton</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 19(^{th}) August</td>
<td>Judy Andrews</td>
<td>Noeli Lara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ange Stitt</td>
<td>Joanne Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Wednesday 24(^{th}) August</td>
<td>Amy Horrigan-Hopson</td>
<td>Rach Brady</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 26(^{th}) August</td>
<td>Joanne Locke</td>
<td>Mark Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Katie Ercan</td>
<td>Jo Ford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Wednesday 31(^{st}) August</td>
<td>Pauline Nesbit</td>
<td>Rhonda Vallely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 2(^{nd}) September (nb Father’s Day Mass and Breakfast)</td>
<td>Ange Stitt</td>
<td>Michelle Cormack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nicole Cleary</td>
<td>Julia Conroy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Wednesday 7(^{th}) September</td>
<td>Lisa Haynes</td>
<td>Michelle Greenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 9(^{th}) September</td>
<td>Katie Ercan, Ange Stitt</td>
<td>Annabel Cockerton, Jo Ford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Wednesday 14(^{th}) September</td>
<td>Amy Horrigan-Hopson</td>
<td>Joanne Locke</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 16(^{th}) September</td>
<td>Sarah Jimenez, Judith Andrews</td>
<td>Joanne Ford, Hajnalka Kevi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Wednesday 21(^{st}) September</td>
<td>Jane Minehan</td>
<td>Michelle Greenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 23(^{rd}) September</td>
<td>Ange Stitt, Aimee Sands</td>
<td>Annabel Cockerton, Mark Davis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRESENTS

CHILDREN, DISABILITY & COMMUNITY EXPO 2016

$5.00 per person (over 18, children free)
Pay on the day

MINGARA RECREATION CLUB

10TH SEPTEMBER 2016

10AM - 2PM

Showcasing a large variety of Service Providers from the Central Coast and surrounds who specialise in the areas of Children, Disability & Community specific assistance.

There will be two parts to this Expo:

- Exhibition of service providers within the main auditorium
- Workshops available within the main auditorium

All participation within the Expo & workshops is covered with the $5.00 admission fee.

Any inquiries please email sandra@autismcentralcoast.org.

WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY

WORKSHOP
11am: Benevolent Society

WORKSHOP
12.15pm: Optimum Intake

WORKSHOP
1pm: Better Caring
Faith is not in decline around the world. Religious affiliation is growing and faith remains a vital part of the life, culture, thinking and behaviour of individuals in Australia, positively impacting society and culture in many and varied ways.

In our multi-faith and multicultural country, religious freedom is an essential basic human right. People of faith and the organisations that have grown out of our faith traditions make a massive contribution to things such as education, healthcare, aged care and an array of social services in our nation.

It is important that people of faith – those who are regularly connected to organised religion, and those who simply regard themselves as believers – mark the faith they identify with when participating in the National Census.

Saying “yes” to your belief matters because it:

1. Allows people of faith, their religious leaders and government representatives to credibly and confidently contribute to the public discourse on a variety of issues such as the economy, education, healthcare and social services.

2. Helps to underline the importance of freedom of belief in Australia and also enables leaders to understand the proportional breakdown of beliefs so as to best nurture interfaith harmony that is a feature of our multicultural nation.

3. Provides decision makers with vital information for effectively planning for the future of our nation such as the location of places of worship and the many ‘good works’ done by people of faith across religious traditions.

4. Provides a snapshot of who we are, including what we value and what drives us. For so many Australians, their values and reasons for the way they act stem from their religious beliefs.

5. Can be used as a future determinant of the allocation of roles and government resourcing and co-funding with faith groups who make a massive contribution to society in education, healthcare and social services.

Stand up and be counted when you participate in the Census this Tuesday 9 August 2016.

Produced by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong for all faith traditions and people of goodwill.