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Term 3 Issue 1

# Principals Report



Although we are already in week 4 this is our first newsletter for the term. We continue to put out our weekly bulletin as a reminder of what is happening for the following week, so our newsletters are simply the bigger picture things that happen. Sometimes these are the things that you may not be aware of. It is our way of keeping you in touch with

what is going on.

### Catholic Education Week

Last week was Catholic Education Week for all Catholic Schools. Our school and those in our Diocese joined together to celebrate the theme Many Voices One Spirit. As a school we celebrated with our Parish through a combined Mass, as well as activities organized in the classroom by our teachers.





### **SRS Survey**

Thank you to those parents who took the time to fill in our 2019 annual online Satisfaction Survey. As a school we are mandated to seek feedback through student, staff and parents to gauge how we are travelling and if improvements need to be made. This survey forms part of the bigger picture and is taken into consideration when setting our 2020 goals through our School Annual Improvement Plan (2020 SAIP).

### Well Being Survey

This week our students are asked to participate in an anonymous survey to measure the wellbeing of our students. The survey is being issued to all students in the Diocese of Cairns by the Student Wellbeing and Diversity directorate of Catholic Education Services. The survey aims to gather student opinions about aspects of the school that relate to supporting student wellbeing and mental health. Our students participated in 2018 and the data collected helps us to keep our student wellbeing at the center of our focus when planning our teaching and learning. All responses are completely anonymous and confidential and information is gathered in a way that generalizes the information to help improve our school community.

### **QELi School Review**

Every 5 years it is mandatory for a school to participate in a review process. 2019 is an opportunity to participate in our school review and to learn from the findings. We were visited by Queensland Education Leadership Institute last Friday as the first part of this process to review the School Effectiveness Framework through which we set our yearly goals. Later this month we will participate in the next part of the process with a Compliance Audit Validation. Thank you to the staff, parents and students who took part in the first part of this review. We look forward to the report findings which will be shared with the community once it is available.

## Playground Upgrade and Garden Grant

You may notice a few things happening around the school this week. Our playground edging is finally being installed and once that has been completed we will then

top up the area with new sand. Our swing set is showing signs of wear and will be out of action until a new set can be budgeted for and installed. Minor works to the chains and other parts of the climbing equipment will also be undertaken shortly and this will complete the playground upgrade. It is the last job scheduled to make sure we are compliant with our Workplace, Health and Safety audit and to ensure that our grounds are always well maintained.

This year we have been fortunate to once again receive a garden grant from Northern Gulf to continue with our garden and healthy eating programs. This year we have asked Donna Chambers to work with our students to teach them about soil care and plants, Ferlin Szekely is assisting with the Stephanie Alexander Program and showing children how to grow and cook with healthy ingredients and Belinda Turnbull is continuing to do an amazing job caring for and maintaining our garden and grounds. Thank you so much to these ladies as it is an extra responsibility they have taken on so our children can benefit.

### P and F

The P and F work tirelessly to raise funds each year so the children have an environment that promotes learning. So far this year they have contributed to new books for the library and new desks and trolleys for the classrooms. We are yet to purchase either new whiteboards or televisions for the classrooms later in the year. If you have any suggestions please contact a member of the P and F.

### Mary MacKillop

Last year we introduced a new award to help us remember and celebrate Mary Mackillop and keep alive her values in our school. Mary would say "never see a need without doing something about it". We value our parents and each year present a small gift to someone who keeps alive the spirit of Mary in our school. Mary is among us and at times we forget to acknowledge those who show us by doing the small things to help. Thank you, Helen Yelavich for all that you do in our school and we truly appreciate your help.





Looking forward to catching up with you all through out term 3,

God Bless

Kath Porter

Principal

## Students of The Week





## **APRE**



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to another busy term and I hope that you all had a relaxing and restful holiday with your family.

This term we welcomed back Mrs Catherine Favaro who will be working in the classrooms and taking on the role of

Learning Support Teacher and Kate Favaro to our year 2 class. We also warmly welcome to our St Anthony community Halo Shaw in prep and Hanro Van Vuuren in year one. We are excited that you have joined our school family and look forward to working with you along your journey.

#### Catholic Education Week

Last week the schools across our Diocese celebrated Catholic Education Week. Catholic Education Week is an opportunity

for all Catholic schools to celebrate and promote their distinctive mission and ethos.

Catholic education strives to make a difference in the lives of those in our schools and in the wider community by challenging young people to live out the message of Jesus and to reach their full potential as compassionate, contributing, life-giving members of society.

#### Catholic education:

- Is a faith-based education which places the values of Jesus at its centre
- Is a high quality, holistic education for 1 in 5 young Queenslanders, educating them to be well-informed, highly skilled and constructive members of the community
- Values diversity and treats each student with dignity enabling them in turn to promote and respect the dignity of all
- Nurtures in students a commitment to social justice and a critical social consciousness
- Prepares students for global responsibilities through stewardship of the earth's resources
- Is an integral part of the local and universal Church
- Occurs in welcoming, inclusive, and connected communities.

The theme for this year's celebrations was.... One Voice. One Spirit.

To celebrate Catholic Education Week, the children in the year 5/6 hosted a whole school Mass on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July. They afterwards returned to the school grounds for a special treat.



### St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

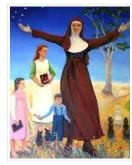
On Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> August, we celebrated the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop with a whole school Mass at 9am. Mary MacKilop's story is a heart warming one that is especially precious for children and us at Saint Anthony of Padua as we are a Josephite school.

Mary was an ordinary Victorian farm girl who was born in 1842 and was the eldest child in her family and had 3 sisters and 4 brothers. As her father was excellent in religious education, most of Mary's education was at home. After her first job as a clerk and working as a governess looking after her cousins and teaching them and other farm children, she became a school teacher. It was in South Australia that she met a priest named Father Julian Tenison Woods, who shared her passion,

wanting to help poor children attend school and together in 1866, they started the "Stable School." Here the children had lessons in reading, writing, math and singing. The girls also enjoyed learning to sew whilst the boys enjoyed woodwork. Mary and her sisters also taught the children about God and taught them to trust in Jesus. Mary became a nun - "Sister Mary of the Cross" in 1867, after Father Woods and herself started the religious order of the sister of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites). Mary devoted her life to the service of God and did great th

ings for Australian and New Zealand families (set up schools, houses for elderly women, young girls and women without jobs, gave comfort to the sick to give them whatever help they could).

and dying and even visited people in jail The Mary MacKillop Feast Day is celebrated on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August. This is



also the date of her death in 1909. At times in her life Mary MacKillop met people who made it hard for her to perform her good works, but she never gave up and today the Sisters of St Joseph are still doing the work that Mary MacKillpp started all those years ago. Mary MacKillop was declared Australia's first Saint on the 17th of October 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI.

#### The Assumption

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August, we will celebrate and commemorate The

Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. The beauty of this day celebrates the glorious Assumption (taking up) of Mary into Heaven. It is a feast of her destiny of fullness and blessedness, of the glorification of her immaculate soul and her perfect configuration to the Risen Christ.



We look at Mary as our heavenly mother. She is the mother to all of us and we look towards as our mother who loves us a great deal, who watches over us, to protect us. She is the mother to whom we can tell every joy and every sorrow to.

Have a wonderful week and in words of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop...

"Never see a need without doing something

about it"



May God's Spirit be with you always Rachelle De Iacovo

# Year 3/4 Class

In Health and Social Sciences we have been exploring the way in which Indigienous Australians survived in the bush with shelter. One of them most important skills is to find shelter from the elements. The year 3 and 4 class learnt some of the traditional methods for building shelter. They are commonly known as Gunyahs or Humpy's, which are traditional houses made of natural materials. In writing, we have also been learning about constructing houses with processed and natural materials with consideration to climate. With thanks to Shannah Richards our indigenous liaison officer for guiding us and a special thankyou to her father Lewis Rischards for helping us source the materials and allow students to view and hold some of the tools that were used. They all received a genuine hands-on experience in making shelter in the bush, the students enjoyed their activity and supported their learning of the unit.

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# **Sporting News**

Congratulations Cayde Miller who was selected to play for Penisula Ruby in Brisbane over the school holidays.

Cayde played really well. He scored a try in the last game and also got man of the match.

His Peninsula team came 7th overall and one Cairns boy from his team was selected for the Qld side. A tremendous effort Cayde, we are all so proud of you.





# Community News

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