

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings All,

Mary MacKillop - An Australian Saint

Monday 8 August was the feast day of Blessed Mary of the Cross, an Australian Saint. Mary MacKillop was born in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, on 15 January 1842. She was the eldest of eight children. Her family struggled financially and, from the age of 14, Mary needed to work to help support the family. In 1860, she went to Penola in South Australia to be governess to her uncle's children. She spoke with the local priest, Fr Julian Tennison Woods, about her desire to become a nun and together they dreamed of starting a religious group.

Six years later, on 19 March 1866 (St Joseph's Day) Mary wore a plain black dress to signify that she had begun to live a Religious life. She co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. Within two years 120 women had joined the Religious Order. They took on the work of educating children in small parish schools, and caring for orphans and needy women.

Little did Fr Woods and Mary know what was to spring from so small a beginning. The 'Josephite' Sisters walked the streets to visit the poor. Mary also opened Orphanages, homes to care for the homeless and destitute, and refuges for ex-prisoners who wished to make a fresh start in life.

Mary overcame many obstacles to follow her dream, but she never lost hope. Mary's motto was **'never see a need without trying to do something about it.'** Her life reveals to us a compassionate God, a God of love. Her actions acknowledged the human dignity of each person. Her life speaks to Australians, in a unique way, of the message of God's love for all, especially for the 'underdog' and the 'battler.' She embodies all that is best in our Australian nation and its people.

Saint Mary of the Cross – Pray for us

*Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and constant in bringing hope and encouragement
to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit
so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.*

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our students who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday. Best wishes and blessings to our Year 3 students who will receive the Sacrament of Communion over the next two Sundays.

Our thanks go to the parents, teachers and parish sacramental team who have helped prepare the children for this wonderful celebration.

Hills Zone Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to the many students who competed in the Hills Zone Athletic Carnival last Friday 5 August. Our students performed extraordinarily well competing strongly in a multitude of field and track events. We are very proud of all their efforts and outstanding performances.

Many thanks go to Mrs Vicky Harvey who was the key organizer of the athletics carnival. Mrs Harvey worked long hours before and during the carnival to ensure that all the sporting events ran seamlessly and on time. Her energy, dedication and enthusiasm contributed significantly to the success of the carnival.

Thank you to Mrs Angela Stitt, Mrs Andra Hemmings and all our parents who gave their time to man long jump and marshalling area. Your generosity and efforts were very much appreciated.

Best Wishes
Bernadette Walsh
Acting Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon 8 Aug– Fri 12 Aug
Fri 19 Aug
Tuesday 6 September
Wednesday 7 September
Thursday 27 October
Friday 28 October

Book Week 2011 "One World, Many Stories"
Year 6 Winter Sleepout
Yr 3 Colonial Show
Year 1 Excursion
Kalkari Discovery Centre (4S)
Kalkari Discovery Centre (4D, 4G)



RELIGIOUS REFLECTION

Sunday August 14th 2011 - 20th

Sunday of Year A

Based on the Gospel

Matthew 15: 21-28

In the Gospel this Sunday, the woman who came to Jesus was a pagan. To make matters worse she was a member of a tribe that had been ancestral enemies of the Jews, but her faith in Jesus was simply astounding. This Gentile woman had:

Love – the love she had for her child was a reflection of the love of God for all.

Faith – with faith she called Jesus, “Lord, son of David.” She knew he would heal her sick daughter.

Perseverance – she knew that her prayers would be answered. She would not take no for an answer.

Hope – she had a passionate hope. She refused to be discouraged.

Humour – she cheerfully refused to be dismayed. “The scraps from the table” would do for her.

This story teaches us how important faith is; it overcomes every obstacle. The Canaanite woman sees Jesus cure her sick daughter in response to her great faith. Jesus said, “Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.” Like Jesus, are you ready to accept people who are of different race or status?

Nikki Callan (REC)



PARENTS CORNER

READING AT HOME

In a recent survey on reading comprehension that I did with some children, most of them named their parents as good readers because they see them reading, and because they read to them all the time. This highlights what an important role model you are to your children in terms of reading.



Provide an environment at home where reading is valued and done regularly. Where the children are surrounded by a variety of reading materials. Find out your child's interest and find reading materials to suit this. It doesn't matter what they read - magazines, novels, newspaper, cartoons, picture books, cook books, information on the internet, instructions ... the list is endless. If the children get the message that reading is valued by their parents, it is more likely to transfer into their life.

READING COMPREHENSION TIP 2

A good reader uses information from the pictures, text and personal experiences, to predict what they are reading. Before reading, they may use personal knowledge about an author or topic to predict what a text will be about. A simple discussion with your child about the title of a text may trigger memories of life experiences or of other texts they have read before. This will allow them to predict the content of the new text. During reading, it is important that readers make predictions about what is going to happen next, or what ideas or evidence the author will present to support an argument. The reading process allows children to continue to evaluate these predictions, and revise any prediction that did not match their original thoughts. We encourage that you ask questions before, during and after reading the text. *Questions to ask include- What words/images to you expect to read in this text? What do you think will happen next? Have you heard or seen this topic before? What do you think this text will be about? Were your predictions accurate? Why do you think that will happen?*

Joanna DelVecchio

ENRICHMENT NEWS

UNSW Competitions

Please make note of the following UNSW Competition date:

16 August—Mathematics

The exam will commence at 8am in the school Hall. Please remember if your child is late to a scheduled University exam they will be unable to resit the test. If possible, could all students come with a 2B pencil and eraser. *Regards Joanna DelVecchio*

Accessing the OLOR Website or Email.

Please note when accessing information from the OLOR website or web email please double click on the attachments to open. If there are no attachments please double click on the bold heading to access the required information.



Register as a Parent

To see your child's progress and receive weekly reports

1. Visit www.mathletics.com.au/parent

2. Follow the prompts (You will need your child's username and password). There is no additional cost for you to register.

Smiles Day

Congratulations to everyone who contributed to Smiles Day. We raised \$680.50 for World Vision to contribute towards the purchase of emergency food for children, clean drinking water, warm blankets and various animals. Great Effort



Thinking of you

We would like the OLOR community to please keep Cooper (4D) and Riley (1D) Price's Pa in their prayers as sadly he is very ill in hospital.



SPORTS SPECTACULAR



Oh! What a week – Early August 2011, OLOR is in 7th Heaven, as we remember what a week!
(I saw Jersey Boys Last night)



National Swimming

To conclude last week's newsletter...Our torpedo Tommaso, came 4th in 50m 12 yrs Breaststroke. So in all, in AUSTRALIA, Tommaso is:
The 4th fastest in 12 yrs 100m Breaststroke
The 4th fastest in 12 yrs 50m Breaststroke
And swam the breaststroke leg of the medly relay for NSW which came 3rd.
Congratulations Tommaso on such a fabulous, fabulous, fabulous year in the pool.



NSW Touch Football

Last week Tayla Fraser and Sophie Martin spent Monday – Thursday playing Touch Football for Mackillop at the State Championships. They then backed up at the Zone Athletics on Friday – yes, they are still enrolled at school and do still pay school fees! The Mackillop team had the glory of winning the Championships, with both Tayla and Sophie playing outstanding touch. Whilst Sophie was not selected for the NSW team, she was instrumental, especially in the final games, keeping the opposition out, opening the gate for Mackillop success. Taylor was selected for her 2nd NSW team in 3 weeks (she was selected for her 2nd NSW team in 3 weeks (she was selected in the NSW Netball Team, the first week of Term 3) and played brilliantly throughout the tournament. Congratulations to both Taylor and Sophie on a wonderful year so far. Tayla has yet to compete at national Championships for Netball and touch, while Sophie is yet to compete for Mackillop in Softball at the NSW Championships.

Both girls also had great success at the Zone Athletics on Friday – how they were still standing I don't know!

Sophie	12yrs	Shot Put	2nd
Tayla	12 yrs	800m	2nd
		Long Jump	3rd

Congratulations on an especially great week Girls.

Taekwondo

Joel Scaramella is our taekwondo star and competed at the national Championships at Homebush last weekend. Joel came first in NSW for his colour belt (Black), his weight (39-42kg). Age (12-13Yrs) As such Joel is off to Canberra in 3 weeks for the national Championships. Joel, his Mum and Dad also gave a demonstration to some senior classes today which was terrific - thank you for opening our eyes to Taekwondo. Outstanding Joel.



Zone Athletics

We then completed a sensational week by having our 43 athletes combining so well to be named zone Athletics Champions for 2011. It was a great day with OLOR athletics achieving 5 new records in various events, having 2 age champions and 1 runner up and a plethora of students reaching Diocesan.

This year we had the task to organise the zone carnival, and, as always, it was made easy by the wonderful community of OLOR who offered to help out before, during and after the day. Thank you so much to:

Mrs Stitt and Mrs Hemmings and Mrs Walsh - my backbones / Mrs Gilmour and Mrs Wright – who came early to sell programmes

Mrs Papenhuzen who also arrived early to help with relays / Mrs Bow who worked tirelessly all day on shot put

Our Long Jump helpers:

Mrs Watters, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Mooney, Mrs Banno, Mrs Ekstrom, Mrs Roberts and Mr Ekstrom who was everywhere / Mrs Newman and Mrs Roberts our BBQ babes / Mr Noor for helping with transport / Matthew Freeman (Yr 6) Jack Mylott (Yr 6), Claudia Catalanotto (Yr 6) who were runners all day. And to everyone who offered or helped out in any way THANKYOU!!!

The day started with a wonderful rendition of our National Anthem sung by Jack Mylott and Claudia Catalanotto – they were terrific and very warmly received by the audience.

The day progressed with fantastic results, with 4 out of 4 for our relay team two to diocesan and then the individual athletes who were outstanding.

As indicated we broke 5 records – Congratulations to:

Philip Banno:	10 Yrs Boys	100m	13.27 secs
Aidan Noor	11 Yrs Boys	200m	27.84 secs
Aaron Creagh	12 Yrs Boys	100m	13.14 secs
Kyle Ekstrom x2	12 Yrs Boys	Shot	10.01m
	12 Yrs Boys	Discuss	29.55m

&

Philip Banno – Junior Boys Age Champion

Aaron Creagh - 12 Yr Boys Age Champions &

Aidan Noor – 11 Yrs Boys Age Champion Runner-up.



All results have not come through yet and I don't want to miss anyone out so I will leave further results to next week (secretaries will be pleased) but all I can say is congratulations to everyone who completed last Friday, both on your sportsmanship and your achievements and in combining to make OLOR champions for 2011.

Thank you again to everyone who helped on the day. It was greatly appreciated. Mrs Harvey

CHILD PROTECTION It is a Diocesan requirement that any parent volunteering at Our Lady of the Rosary complete the Child Protection training module. This training is now to be completed online at :

<http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/module1/index.htm>

Once volunteers have completed the online training, a confirmation email is sent to the school and to the email address supplied by the parent undertaking the training module. Once OLOR receives this advice, we will forward details of downloading a 'Volunteer Prohibited Employment Declaration' for you to complete. This form needs to be returned together with Photo ID (which needs to be sighted) to the School office prior to commencing any classroom assistance. The training module will need to be completed every 2 years.

GENERAL NEWS

Upgrade of our email system / new process for newsletter next term



As we have previously advised we are currently upgrading our school email system. In addition we have been signing up our parents to E-News so that you will receive the newsletter and other important articles, notes, events etc electronically. Our aim is to send all typical newsletter items homes as they happen as opposed to waiting for the weekly newsletter. We intend to have this operational over the next few weeks. To ensure that we have your correct email address, once again we ask any parent who has not yet done so, to forward their address to olorkellyville@parra.catholic.edu.au to ensure we have the exact spelling of your address. Thank you to those families who provided their email address electronically. Out of 420 families we have only received 227 emails. If you have not yet forwarded your email electronically to OLOR, it would be appreciated if you could do so as soon as possible otherwise we can not guarantee you will receive all important correspondence.

Sports for Schools

Once again OLOR will be collecting the Coles Sports for Schools Vouchers this year . Please remember to collect as many as possible as all points will contribute towards new sports equipment for our students. Thank you.

PARISH INFORMATION



NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS REGARDING FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES IN AUGUST

On three weekends in August there will be First Holy Communion in our parish. The dates and times for the Masses are as follows: On **7 and 14 August**: 11am and 2pm On **21 August**: Mass at 11am only. *Please be aware of the above dates when planning your weekend Masses in August.*

Adoration on Fridays 5, 12 and 19 August will be from **10am to 3pm**. The Franciscan Crown will be prayed at 6pm followed with Mass at 7pm. **This will enable First Holy Communicants to practice at 4pm on the above days.**
Please remember to bring your child's Eucharist booklet to the rehearsals.

THEOLOGY BEHIND FRA ANGELICO'S PAINTINGS: 7 & 14 SEPTEMBER

Presenter: Most Rev Bishop Anthony Fisher OP. Fra Angelico's exact date of birth is not known, but 1395 up to about 1400 is the accepted estimate. He was known in Italy as Beato Angelico (the blessed). In 1418 he became a Dominican Friar at the Carmine under his birth name of Guido di Pietro. He was initially trained as an illuminator working with Benedetto, his older brother. He also nurtured a deep religious love of humanity, and had a sense of humility before God. This devotion to his religion shaped his art and his life. Over 2 nights from 7-9pm at the Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. Cost: donation. Bookings essential: (02) 9831 4911 or mh@instituteformission.com.au.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again! Weekend date: 21 – 23 October at Winbourne, Edmond Rice Centre, Mulgoa NSW Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au Information: website www.wwme.org.au

World Youth Day Fundraising

To celebrate World Youth Week, OLOR will be holding Bandana Day on Tuesday 16 August 2011. All children will be allowed to wear mufti but we ask them to bring a \$3.00 donation. We have a limited number of World Youth Day Bandana's that will be given out on the day, on a first come first served basis. Funds raised will go to support the students who are going on the pilgrimage to Madrid for World Youth Day.



Religious Literacy

The Bishops of NSW and ACT in '*Catholic Schools at a Crossroads*' invite educational leaders and staff, clergy and religious, parents and parish communities, to dedicate themselves to ensuring that our schools are "truly Catholic in their identity and life" and "enable our students to achieve high levels of 'Catholic religious literacy' and practice."

With you, we are concerned to develop children's literacy in every area of learning, and this includes Religious Education. In one sense, a focus on 'religious literacy' is not new. Religious Education in Catholic schools has always aimed to develop children's capacity to express their growing understanding, appreciation, thoughts, questions and insights into God, Jesus, the Scriptures, the Church, the Sacraments, Prayer and life as a Christian. This is essential to their participation in the religious life of the school and the parish.

There is also a religious literacy that is needed for life in an increasingly multicultural society. Increasingly we love, live and work, learn and serve with people of differing cultures, Christian traditions, world religions and other people of good will. Religious literacy assists people to communicate and cooperate with other citizens in creating a more just and compassionate Australian society. Religious literacy also assists people in their work and in their relationships with family, friends and in the workplace.

Teachers are continually assessing students' learning and reporting to you on their developing religious literacy. In addition to this school-based assessment, and in consultation with Bishop Anthony and the Parramatta Diocesan Schools Board, all Year 4 students in Primary and Year 8 students in Secondary will participate in a Diocesan Assessment of their Religious Literacy during Term 3. Students will be completing a variety of learning tasks related either to God's Creation or to God's forgiveness and healing. Their achievement in completing these tasks will be formally assessed. Additionally, all Year 4 students in Primary and Year 8 students in Secondary will complete an online assessment at the beginning of Term 4. The students will answer various questions related to their learning in Religious Education from Years 1-4 in Primary and to Year 8 in Secondary.

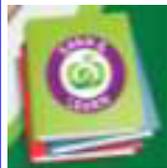
A report based on students' completion of these assessments will be forwarded to Year 4 and Year 8 parents during Term 4.

With you, we continue to delight in the goodness and faith of all our children. With you we are dedicated to their learning, their wellbeing and their continued growth and development as people made in the image and likeness of God.

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta will be holding a College Open Morning Tour on Monday 15 August 2011 commencing at 9.15am. **Bookings are essential for this tour.** For further information or to make your booking, please contact the Enrolment Officer on 1800 Mercy Girl (637 294) or enrolment@olmc.nsw.edu.au

Enrolling now 2013
Limited vacancies 2012

Help Woolworths help OLOR— Earn & Learn



This year, Woolworths is giving away \$5 million worth of equipment to

Primary and Secondary schools right across Australia. The program

ends 18th September 2011.

WHAT TO DO

Step 1—Shop at your local Woolworths and keep your docket.

Step 2—Send your Woolworths dockets with the unique Earn and Learn code

to OLOR. A green box has been provided by Woolies. The box is

located in the school office for you to place your receipts in.

Step 3—When the week program ends, OLOR simply redeem their

points against more than 7,000 educational items: library books,

classroom supplies, outdoor gear, arts and crafts materials and much, much more.

So help Woolworths help OLOR.

You can visit <http://www.earnandlearn.net.au/> to find out more.

Book Fair Parade

It was an exciting, colourful and energetic day we experienced at the Book Fair Parade on Tuesday. OLOR students dressed as their beloved book characters to mark the occasion. Harry Potter, witches, fairies, pirates and villains were seen in abundance.

The students paraded, in class groups, around the school hall to the delight and applause of their parents and peers.



Watch Out

Fathers' day gifts coming soon—to be displayed in the OLOR front office.

Creative Arts Expo Costume Meeting

A meeting to discuss the making of costumes of our Creative Art Expo performers will be held in the Library at 3:00pm this Friday, 12 August.

Come along and join in the creation of the wonderful costumes our students will wear to perform at the Hills Centre on 14 September. All are welcome.



A Sports Centre for the **WHOLE** Family!



Hills Indoor Sports

Get your friends together and play Indoor Cricket, Netball and Soccer

Spring Competitions for KIDS!!!
Night & Weekend Competitions for Mum & Dad!!!



For the 0-5 year olds!
Soft play & Jumping Castles!

Open 7 Days! Children's Birthday Parties too!!!

Aquabliss School Of Swim

Seven Hills

Home of Aquablitz, Toongabbie Swim Club

School Holiday Intensive Swim Program

September: Monday 26th to Friday 30th

October: Tuesday 4th to Friday 7th

We also offer:

Baby Classes,

Learn to Swim, Adult Learn to Swim,

Development & Competitive Squads,

Aqua Aerobics & Lap Swimming

HOW TO CONTACT US

20 Distribution Plc, Seven Hills, 2147

Aquabliss: (02) 9838 4422 www.aquabliss.com.au

Hills Indoor Sports: (02) 9838 7712 www.hillsports.com.au