LETTER 11
27th April 2016

Let mercy live among us

PRINCIPAL’S COLUMN

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school this term. I hope families had a restful time during the school holidays. We have a great term planned including:

- An Athletics Carnival;
- A special performance by Lucas Proudfoot;
- Mother’s Day celebrations;
- First Eucharist for some of our Year 3 students;
- Our St Benedict’s Feast Day;

and plenty of reading new and exciting books, writing and publishing, as well as plenty of inquiry learning about new knowledge in Science, History and Social Sciences.

Feedback about the new timetable introduced last term shows that students and teachers can now engage in very focused learning earlier in the day when they are feeling fresher. This has led to greater accomplishments in every class. Students have adjusted very well to these simple changes.

The 40 new ipads have been well and truly broken in. It is great to see whole classes regularly using them effectively as a tool for learning. Students are experiencing 21st Century Learning for a 21st Century future.

The BYOD program in Years 5/6 has had a much smoother introduction thanks to the planning and troubleshooting by our Year 5/6 teachers and Nick, our Catholic Education IT Officer. The students are highly engaged in deeper learning opportunities and creating wonderful work that would have been much harder to produce with only paper and pen.

I look forward to the many opportunities that Term 2 will bring for our students.
NAPLAN
In two weeks our Year 3 and 5 students will sit the national NAPLAN tests in Literacy and Numeracy.

Most of our Year 5 students have experienced this previously and are ready to engage in them. It is a new experience for our Year 3 students and their teachers are preparing them well; building their confidence and capacity to engage fully with these compulsory tests.

If parents are concerned about their child participating in NAPLAN, please contact your son or daughter’s teacher to discuss the options available.

NAPLAN tests will occur on:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tuesday 10th May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11th May</th>
<th>Thursday 12th May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.30 – 12.30 Writing</td>
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ANZAC Liturgy
Thank you to Kindergarten who led our ANZAC Liturgy in our new courtyard space using our ANZAC Cross for the first time.

Thank you to Mrs Tomadini who read the story *Meet the ANZACS* by Claire Saxby and to Mr Iain Lewington (father of Oliver, Year 6) who gave the address. A special thanks to Sergeant Major (BSM) Graeme Reynolds for leading us through The Rouse.

Every child planted a poppy they have made in the garden. It was a striking reminder of the great sacrifices made by many men and women during that time of the Great War and conflicts where Australians have served since.

Lunchtime Clubs
As the weather cools down our students have some great opportunities to pursue personal interests and hobbies through the lunchtime clubs this term, generously organised and supervised during lunch by staff and/or student leaders. This term they include:
St. Benedict’s Term 2 Lunchtime Clubs

<table>
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<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework Club</td>
<td>Mini Media</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Benny Buddies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Mrs Stratford 5/6S Classroom</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Year 6 Leaders 5/6S Classroom</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Mrs Anderson</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Mrs Anderson</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Year 6 Leaders Covered Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parliament of Youth</td>
<td>Board and Card Games</td>
<td>Mini Vinnies</td>
<td>Benny Boot Camp</td>
<td>Choir</td>
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<td>Year Five &amp; Six Weeks 1 - 5 Mrs Stratford 5/6S Classroom</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Mr Garton Library</td>
<td>Year Three – Year Six Ms Younger 5/6Y Classroom</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Year 6 Leaders Side Oval</td>
<td>Year Two – Year Six Ms Younger Performing Arts Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colouring In Club</td>
<td>Lego Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Ms Smith Year 1 Classroom</td>
<td>Kinder – Year Six Mr Garton Performing Arts Room</td>
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Than you all for your support and partnership.

Matthew Garton  
Principal

**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE**

**First Communion**

Families with children participating in preparing in their First Communion this term please remember we are meeting in the **Library this evening at 6:00pm** for our Information Session. If you haven’t already, please note the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Who?</th>
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</table>
| Wednesday 27 April  
6:00pm – 7:00pm | First Communion Information Session | St Benedict’s School Library | Parents only needed – students welcome |
| Sunday 5 June  
9:00am – 1:00pm | Mass & First Communion Retreat | St Benedict’s School & Parish Centre | At least one parent and children |
| Sunday 19 June  
9:00am – 11:00am | Mass & First Communion practice | St Benedict’s Church | At least one parent and children |
| Sunday 26 June  
9:00am – 10:00am | First Communion at Parish Mass | St Benedict’s Church | First Communicants & families |
First Friday Mass
Friday 6th May the whole school will gather in the church at 10.00am to celebrate First Friday Mass. It is a Mass to celebrate our Mothers. Year One are very excited to be preparing the readings and music for this special Mass. All families are invited to join us at this liturgical celebration. We will bless all mothers within our community as a part of this Mass.

Meaghan Younger  
Religious Education Coordinator

SCHOOL NOTICES

Canteen
FRIDAY, 29 APRIL 9.00am – 11.30am  
 Helpers Needed  
 11.30am – 2.00pm  
 Helpers Needed  
MONDAY, 2 MAY 9.00am – 11.30am  
 Helpers Needed  
 11.30am – 2.00pm  
 Helpers Needed

Thank you for all help given.  
Nancy Lyons, Canteen Manager

Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their special day this week: Justin T and Amber T.

Weekly Notes
The following notes have gone home this week and are currently on the website.
- First Day Bytes – Term 2  
- Canteen Roster – Please return asap.  
- Canteen Winter Term 2.  
- Scholastic Bookclub – Due by 13th May  
- RedGum Bookclub – Due by 23rd May  
- First Communion – given at Information Evening

Dates to Remember
- 27th April – First Communion Information Session 6.00pm  
- 29th April – School Assembly 2.30pm-3pm  
- 2nd May – enrolment period begins  
- 3rd May – South Weston 12 & U Cross Country  
- 5th May – Open Day 9am – 12noon and 5.30pm – 6.30pm  
- 6th May – First Friday Mass 10am-11am  
- 6th May – Mothers Day Stall  
- 6th May – Visit by Ms Moira Najdecki, CE Director

Merit Certificates Recipients
- KINDERGARTEN: Jillian H and Amelia J  
- YEAR 1: Thoreau S, Alain K, William C, Ria C and Santino E  
- YEAR 2: Arran S and Brigid N  
- YEAR 3/4E: Troy J, John C and Grace L  
- YEAR 3/4B: Mia B, Layla C, Teresa D, Chloe D and Zara S  
- YEAR 5/6Y: Cooper E, Olivia K, Giselle M and James H

Clothing Pool
The school Clothing Pool will be opened each Friday straight after assembly, 2.50pm to 3.15pm.
Student Banking
Join School Banking on an outback adventure!
Every year the School Banking program launches a new savings theme and 8 new exclusive School Banking reward items. This year’s program is themed the Outback Savers and School Banking is taking students on a wild adventure through the Canyon of Savings, where they’ll learn to master smart savings habits. There are 8 new reward items for 2016 from the Outback Savers range:
- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!
This year School Banking is giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin. Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE CANBERRA

YEAR 7, 2017 INFO NIGHT
MONDAY 2 MAY, 2016
6.30PM, WANNIASSA CAMPUS

YEAR 11, 2017 INFO NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 11 MAY, 2016
6.00PM, ISABELLA CAMPUS

TRY MACKILLOP DAY
THURSDAY 5 MAY, 2016
9.00AM, WANNIASSA CAMPUS

6209 0100 enrolments@mackillop.act.edu.au mackillop.act.edu.au
Queanbeyan Social Basketball

Enrolment/Payment Night

Date: Thursday 5th May 2016
Time: 5-7.30pm
Venue: Basketball Stadium
Contact Rosie E: pete35@tpg.com.au
Grades- Kindergarten to Year 6
Contact Carole E: cjduvall@hotmail.com
High School and Senior Men & Women

Register now at www.aussiehoops.com.au
Commencing 13th May 2016
Fridays 4.30-5.30pm
Ages: 4-10 yrs
Cost: $85 includes basketball, backpack & singlet
+8 weeks clinic
Venue: Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium

FOOD FOR MIND, BODY & SOUL

RETREAT
FOR MATURE CATHOLIC WOMEN WHO FEEL ON THE FRINGE OF THE CHURCH

Venue: The Hermitage, Mittagong
Date: June 10-12, 2016
Accommodation: Single ensuite rooms

EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION: $450
Children’s Learn To Skate Program

COME AND GIVE IT A TRY!

Rollerskating is great fun, it promotes fitness and strengthens gross motor, so come and give it a try.

When: Wednesdays during ACT school terms
Where: Queanbeyan High School Gym
       Surveyor St, Queanbeyan
Cost:  $130 first child and $120 for a sibling
       plus $5 skate hire if required

Contact: skateprogramsACT@gmail.com