From the Principal

“Work on with constancy and courage”
(St Mary of the Cross MacKillop)

How Will You Re-Create Your World?

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

“We cannot do great things on this earth, only small things done with great love”. (Mother Teresa)

Schools and education have certainly been in the spotlight over the past week with the Prime Minister announcing a crusade in education over the next decade. However, we still remain uncertain as to how schools, including Catholic Schools, will be funded beyond 2013. 

We have also experienced the first industrial action to be taken by Catholic teachers for a long time. Thank you to those parents of Years 7, 11 and 12 students who sent their children to school on Wednesday. I was disappointed that many Year 11 students in particular were absent on the day as this is a crucial time of the year for their studies. Year 11 classes did continue on the day.

School Improvement Review

Our school improvement review will begin next Monday and run until Wednesday. Pam Burton, Graeme Meadows and Bill Slatter will be the review panel commissioned by the Catholic Education Office in Ballarat. Some parents, staff and students will be interviewed over the three days and our Naplan, VELS and VCE data will come under scrutiny. It is an opportunity for us to review what has been achieved in the school over the past five years and then to plan how we need to move ahead into the future.

Lorin Nicholson and Sam Clear

We were blessed to have motivational speakers Lorin and Sam in the school recently speaking to different groups of students – their main messages were against bullying and having a positive attitude to what you are able to achieve in your life. Setting high expectations and believing in yourself were key aspects of the talks.

Summer Uniform

The warmth of spring is upon us so students may begin wearing their summer uniform from Monday 10th September. Parents please check that your son/daughter is wearing correct uniform.

Rob Aron
Principal
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR SEPTEMBER: Bad Memory?

When a student says that they have a bad memory, it usually means that actually they do not encode the information they are trying to remember into their memory in an effective way. Memory is really a ‘process’ as opposed to a ‘thing’ in your head that you are born with.

Rather than ‘improving your memory’, you want to improve the process of memory creation to ensure memory retrieval goes smoothly! The reason why many students do not retain what they are learning is that the way they study only gets the information as far as their short term memory, and then before long it is forgotten instead of being encoded into long term memory.

The first stage for students in improving their retention of information is to try and find ways to make what they are learning INTERESTING to themselves, EMOTIONAL, ENJOYABLE and if they can’t do this then at least create the firm INTENTION to remember the information. It is all about their approach to what they are learning.

The next step in memory creation is the encoding process. To improve in this area, students need to improve:
- CONCENTRATION AND FOCUS (making notes about what they are learning, studying using techniques that suit their learning style, studying when they are most alert)
- ORGANISATION OF MATERIAL (making brain friendly notes: lists, highlighting, categories, grouping, graphics) and
- MAKING ASSOCIATIONS AND LINKS between the new material and previously learned material.

Next stage in the memory process is facilitating the storage of memories. Students can improve the way memories are stored by ensuring they BREAK THEIR STUDY BLOCKS UP with at least a few minutes break every half hour (giving the brain a chance to encode and file that chunk of content) and CHUNK DOWN the information to be learnt into manageable chunks. Getting enough SLEEP is also essential as fundamental memory processes take place during sleep. The other thing that is really important in this stage is REPETITION AND REGULAR REVIEW. Each time a review takes place the brain fires all the neurons connected to that memory and the more often that happens the stronger the connections between the neurons and the more intense and powerful the memory that is created.

So in summary, the top three things to improve the process of creating powerful memories are:

i) focus, positive attitude and intention to remember are essential (reading something half-heartedly while bored pretty much guarantees it won’t be retained)
ii) an active approach to learning where students are ‘doing’ (making notes, testing themselves using a wide range of study techniques) rather than just ‘reading’ and
iii) repetition and constant review of the material over a period of time.

To learn more about the brain and memory and advanced memory techniques visit the Brain and Memory unit on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au (click on the For Students tab).

Our school’s subscription details are -
Username: mackillopcollege
Password: 160results

REMINDER: SCHOOL FEES

Payment of School Fee accounts are now due unless other arrangements exist. Prompt payment would be appreciated.
FAITH MATTERS: A VISION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The guiding vision of Catholic Education is the reign of God. This is the realization, by God’s grace in Jesus Christ, of God’s vision of fullness of life for all humankind and the good stewardship of creation. For Catholic education, this vision translates into commitment to a humanizing education for our students and serving the common good of society. Catholic educators are called to implement the following values throughout the whole school curriculum in order to fulfil this vision.

1. A positive understanding of the human person and the great potential of every student.
2. A positive outlook on each student and on life in the world, seeing more than meets the eye.
3. A commitment to community that is all for one and one for all.
4. A participative and holistic way of knowing and understanding that will lead students to wisdom and responsibility.
5. Continually reclaiming who we are as Catholics with a central emphasis on the wisdom of Scripture and Tradition.
6. A deep commitment to justice for all.
7. A spirituality that puts faith to work in the everyday.
8. A ‘catholicity’ that has no borders to its welcome and outreach.

We at St Mary MacKillop College continue to strive to implement this spirituality of education in the development of our curriculum and pastoral care programmes.

BETTY CURRIE SCHOLARSHIP 2013

Betty Currie Scholarships are now open for the 2013 School Year. These scholarships are available to families who may be experiencing financial hardship and need assistance with school fees. Application forms are attached to the newsletter. If you are applying for a scholarship please return the application form by 3pm, 21st September, 2012. All applications are confidential and interviews will be conducted in Term 4.

CAREERS NEWS

Australian School Based Apprenticeship (ASBA) 2013 Information Session

ASBAs allow secondary students to work for employers train towards a recognised qualification while they complete their VCE or VCAL studies. Interested students from Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 are invited to attend an Information Session regarding how a School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship works.

Tina Rankins from MEGT Australian Apprenticeships Centre will be available at St Mary MacKillop College on Wednesday, September 19th from 1.30pm in the Library classroom to explain how she can assist students wishing to undertake an ASBA next year. Parents are welcome to attend.

Tina is also happy to speak with any Year 12 student who is looking to commence an Apprenticeship or Traineeship in 2013.

Please contact Mrs Brenda Brady on 50329771 or email bbrady@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au if you would like further information.
LaTrobe University visit
Shioban Downing, Future Students Advisor from LaTrobe University, Bendigo will be at St Mary MacKillop College on Tuesday, September 11th and is available to speak with current Year 12 students from 10.15am until 1.00pm in the Careers Office and answer any questions they may have.
She will also have information regarding study options at LaTrobe University as well as Change of Preference packs which have been designed to assist students with their tertiary study applications. Year 12 students are encouraged to make the most of this opportunity.

Tertiary Scholarships
For many years the Tresco Lodge has generously offered local students three substantial scholarships for Year 12 students undertaking further education. Awards are made by a selection panel and are not solely based on academic criteria. Community activities and sporting aspects are also taken into account.
Application forms are available from the Careers Office.

Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program - Year 10 students
The University of Melbourne is inviting applications for the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program. This program is open to high achieving students in Year 10, and at least one student from St Mary MacKillop College will be offered a position in this program. Students must demonstrate evidence of leadership potential, active citizenship and community involvement in their application.
Benefits of being selected as a Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholar include access to the University of Melbourne resources and participation in academic enrichment events. Substantial further benefits are then gained for any student who ultimately enrolls at the University of Melbourne. Brochures and application details are available in the Careers Centre and also online at www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/kld

VTAC Applications
A reminder to Year 12 students wishing to undertake further study in 2013 that VTAC application close on Friday, September 28th. If your child is intending to apply for tertiary study, they must have registered and put in at least one preference by this date. They can still change and/or add preferences later, even after you receive your final results.
It is pleasing to see that many students are taking the opportunity to come and seek clarification and guidance on how to apply, and also to get further course information as well as SEAS, accommodation and scholarship information. Careers Office staff are available every day during school hours to meet with students and their parents if required.

Arts Career - Fairfax Festival
Are you passionate about the Arts?
Planning a career in Arts Management or Performance?
Did you complete secondary school in 2011 or will be completing it in 2012 & have participated in the Fairfax Festival on at least one occasion?
Are you planning a gap year and want a fun, fabulous money-can’t-buy opportunity to kick start your career? If you answered YES to the above questions then we want you!
The position description maybe obtained by emailing admin@fairfaxfestival.com.au or phone 03 50362384.

CURRICULUM
After School Homework & Study Help – Term 3

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Lyndal Vallak</td>
<td>Sally Looney</td>
<td>Chris Joyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Staff Meeting (SiR)</td>
<td>Chelsea Bird</td>
<td>Mandy McCallum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
<td>Mandy McMahon</td>
<td>Nelia O’Brien</td>
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ATHLETICS CARNIVAL REPORT

Tuesday August 28th proved to be one of the nicest weather wise for a number of months, and luckily this fell on our athletics carnival day.

The day then proved to be extremely successful with the majority of the school population present and willing to become involved in both competition and supporting their fellow house mates.

Our House Captains again led by fantastic example, being willing to coordinate their teams with changes and involving themselves through a great competitive spirit and with plenty of cheering as well.

The standard of competition was again very high with 21 records being broken and all events consistently full of the maximum 8 participants.

At the end of the day it was Xavier House that won the day, both in overall points aggregate and in winning the House Spirit award. Congratulations must go to all members of Xavier house, their House Captains and the House coordinator Mrs Wright, on their terrific levels of participation, competitiveness and enthusiasm.

Many thanks must go to the Swan Hill Little Athletics Club who did an outstanding job in preparing the track and surrounds. A final thank you also to the many parents and friends who turned up to support their children and the College.

FINAL RESULTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XAVIER HOUSE</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1710.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLOMON HOUSE</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>1574.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODS HOUSE</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>1525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TENISON HOUSE</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>1309</td>
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AGE CHAMPIONS WERE:

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<tr>
<th>AGE GROUP</th>
<th>NAME(S)</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U/14 BOYS</td>
<td>Paddy Dow</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/14 GIRLS</td>
<td>Taylar Borg</td>
<td>Tenison</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monique Bruton</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 BOYS</td>
<td>Henry Woodward</td>
<td>Woods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 GIRLS</td>
<td>Mikayla Burge</td>
<td>Woods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/16 BOYS</td>
<td>Josh Domaille</td>
<td>Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/16 GIRLS</td>
<td>Lauren Paynter</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/17 BOYS</td>
<td>Jordan Anderson</td>
<td>Tenison</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/17 GIRLS</td>
<td>Natalie Vonwirtz -Matthews</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/18 BOYS</td>
<td>Jake Shadbolt</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/18 GIRLS</td>
<td>Tamra Hoare</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/21 BOYS</td>
<td>Zac Rundell-Gordon</td>
<td>Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/21 GIRLS</td>
<td>Bridget O’Bree</td>
<td>Tenison</td>
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RECORDS BROKEN WERE:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>NEW RECORD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U/15 discus</td>
<td>Lachie Carroll</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
<td>37.55m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 javelin</td>
<td>Michael Conlan</td>
<td>Woods</td>
<td>39.78m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 discus</td>
<td>Bethany Oliver</td>
<td>Woods</td>
<td>25.74m</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/18 triple jump</td>
<td>Jake Shadbolt</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
<td>11.80m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/18 long jump</td>
<td>Tamra Hoare</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>4.76m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 200m</td>
<td>Natalie Vonwirtz Matthews</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>28.63sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 discus</td>
<td>Bethany Oliver</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>33.98m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/16 1500m</td>
<td>Will Burns</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>5.09.82 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 long jump</td>
<td>Ryan Shadbolt</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
<td>5.52m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 long jump</td>
<td>Natalie Vonwirtz Matthews</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>4.94m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/21 long jump</td>
<td>Mollie Quin</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>4.47m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/16 high jump</td>
<td>Xavia Elford</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
<td>1.71m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/18 javelin</td>
<td>Will McKay</td>
<td>Woods</td>
<td>40.29m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/18 shot-put</td>
<td>Zac Caccaviello</td>
<td>Woods</td>
<td>12.10m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 400m</td>
<td>Natalie Vonwirtz Matthews</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>1.10.00 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 high jump</td>
<td>Aleesha Flanagan</td>
<td>Woods</td>
<td>1.41m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 javelin</td>
<td>Amelia Bruggy</td>
<td>Woods</td>
<td>16.73m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 discus</td>
<td>Jesse Kiel</td>
<td>Tenison</td>
<td>30.0m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 high jump</td>
<td>Ben Parkes</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
<td>1.54m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 4 x 100m relay</td>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>1.02.32 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 4 x 100m relay</td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>57.67 sec.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
SLIM (Sustainable Living in the Mallee) is your local sustainability group and is hosting an event for Sustainable House Day on Sunday September 9th. Sustainable House Day aims to promote renewable energy, recycling and other practices that reduce our ecological footprint. Firstly, we have the Eco Demonstration House at SuniTafe (64 Sea Lake Road) open between 10am and 4pm. This Home has a 9 star energy rating, a passive solar design and was designed and built by local trades people. We are also running a bus tour leaving from the Eco House at 9.30am, visiting local homes and projects. Call Peta Thornton on 0408 508 111 or Lois Schmidt on 50 360242 for the bus trip.

YEAR 10, 11 AND 12 STUDENTS WHO LIVE IN KERANG:
LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR COMPETITION
Students who live in Kerang are invited to participate in the Lions Youth of the Year competition. The Kerang Lions Club is accepting applications for the competition to be held on 16th October and 18th October.

The program involves students completing a questionnaire about themselves, a twenty-minute interview on Tuesday evening 16th October, then two impromptu questions and a five minute prepared speech at a function on Thursday 18th October. The aim of the program is to assist secondary school students in developing citizenship and leadership qualities.

Application forms may be obtained from the VCE Coordinator Mrs Sally Looney and are to be submitted to Lindsay Maplestone in Kerang by Monday evening 17th September, 2012. Contestants have to be over the age of 15 and under the age of 19 before 30th June, 2013. Further information can be obtained from the Kerang Lions Youth of the Year Coordinator, Mr. Lindsay Maplestone, on 5452 2233.
RURAL AMBASSADOR AND JUNIOR AMBASSADOR AWARDS GET BEHIND RURAL YOUTH

Do you know a young person aged between 20 and 30 or 16 and 19 in your community who is worthy of recognition? Someone who is actively involved in social, business, civic, religious or sporting events that make living in rural areas better? If so, why not encourage them to enter the Victorian Agricultural Shows Rural Ambassador Awards or Junior Ambassador Awards? By entering one of these fulfilling competitions, not only will their efforts be recognised, they will have the chance to win prizes of significant value including a cash component.

Entrants will initially compete at a Local Show and then if successful, will proceed to a Group final. Ultimately, Rural Ambassador Group winners will compete at the State Finals, which will be judged at the Royal Melbourne Show in September. The Awards aim to highlight the importance of young people in rural Victoria, identify and encourage enthusiastic, skilful, industrious and unselfish young people, and to provide young people with a forum to express their views through education and experience.

How to enter the Awards?
Contact your local Agricultural Show Society and complete an Application Form. Send the completed form to the secretary of the Agricultural Show Society that you wish to represent. For further information, contact your local Show Society or send an email through to crowe.samantha.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

GREASE DVD NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

MURRAYDALE TENNIS CLUB
The Murraydale Tennis Club is looking for new members for the 2012/2013 season. If you are interested in joining us at Murraydale, please contact Megan Probyn on 0431 705 707 for more information.
ARE YOU EX NAVY, ARMY, OR AIR FORCE?

Then Carry On (Victoria) may be able to help you with education costs if you meet our eligibility criteria.

If you have served in the Australian Defence Forces or Allied Forces and you wish to apply for a Secondary Education Grant for 2013, please telephone Carry On on (03) 9629 2648 to establish eligibility and request an application form.

Carry On (Victoria) assists Secondary School students in Years 7-12 with grants for expenses such as fees, books, uniforms, excursions etc. For those students going on to Tertiary Education a grant may also be available.

Children whose Parent/s or Legal Guardian/s have a need for financial assistance and comply with our eligibility criteria may apply. All grants are income tested and the closing date for applications is 23 October 2012.

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BEAUTIFUL AFRICA

A NEW GENERATION

Wed 12th September 7.00pm.
Swan Hill Town Hall
WWW.WATOTO.COM
St Mary MacKillop College

APPLICATION FOR BETTY CURRIE SCHOLARSHIP – 2013

Student Details:
Surname: ..........................................................  First Name: ..........................................................
Date of Birth: ..........................................................
Present School: ..........................................................  Year Level 2013: ..........................................................
Home Address: .................................................................................................................................

Family Details:
Father:
Name: ..........................................................  Home Phone: ..........................................................
Employer: ..........................................................  Business Phone: ..........................................................
Occupation: ..........................................................

Mother:
Name: ..........................................................  Home Phone: ..........................................................
Employer: ..........................................................  Business Phone: ..........................................................
Occupation: ..........................................................

Number of children in Family: ..........................................................  Ages: ..........................................................

We have read the General Conditions overleaf and Financial Data is supplied. Yes/ No

STATEMENT BY PARENTS INDICATING REASONS WHY THEY FEEL THEIR CHILD IS ELIGIBLE FOR A SCHOLARSHIP:

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General Conditions of Scholarship:

1. Scholarship will remit up to 75% of Base School Fees excluding levies for the recipient.

2. Scholarship is based on the financial need of the student’s family as well as the student’s attitude towards school and his/her classroom application.

3. Financial need will be determined by a Finance-Committee including the Parish Priest, Principal and Assistant Business Manager.

4. Application and the names of the recipients will remain confidential and information supplied will be available only to the Finance-Committee.

5. Interviews will be conducted in October/November, where necessary, to determine eligibility.

6. All scholarships are for one year only. Recipients can reapply in the following years.

7. The Finance-Committee has the right to ask for financial information from applicants, on a case by case basis.

8. Decisions are made on scholarships in October/November each year. Letters posted end of Term 4.

9. Funds do not change hands, but a book entry is made on the family accounts.

Information to accompany application:

Copies of current taxation returns or other documentation which will indicate the net income of both parents or parent in a single parent situation.

This application should be placed in a sealed envelope, together with supporting documentation, and addressed as follows:

Confidential
Scholarship Application
The Principal
St Mary MacKillop College
P.O. Box 971
Swan Hill, 3585