Dear Parents and Friends of MacKillop College,

This week we have celebrated the very first Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop with our traditional JJAMM week celebrations.

The week began with a formal blessing of the new Classrooms followed by a Liturgy celebrated by the Bishop of our Diocese, Bishop Peter Connors. A sumptuous sit down lunch was then provided by our Hospitality class under the guidance of Mrs. Mandy McCallum. We are grateful to them for restaurant class food.

The week continued with many fun activities – thanks to the many staff and students who organized and participated in so many activities.

At the celebration of the Liturgy on Monday to begin JJAMM week the students were asked to reflect on the fact that Mary MacKillop had a gift which she developed into a legacy from which we still benefit today. Our students are challenged then to discover the gift they certainly have, to nurture it and to share it for the betterment of humankind.

Last Thursday we hosted 120 Year 6 students from around the region – it was great to see so many fresh smiling faces enjoying Food Technology, Woodwork and even English and Maths. Thanks to Mandy McCallum and her team of aides for the great organization of the day. A reminder that enrolments officially close on August 31st – this will assist us in our planning for next year.

Rob Aron
Principal

BETTY CURRIE SCHOLARSHIP 2012
Betty Currie Scholarships for 2012 are now open for the 2012 School Year. These scholarships are available to families that may be experiencing financial hardship and need assistance with school fees. An Application form is enclosed with this current newsletter. If you are applying for a scholarship please return the application form by 3pm, 23rd September, 2011. All applications are confidential and interviews will be conducted in Term 4.
CURRICULUM

After School Homework & Study Help – Term 3

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<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Monday 15 August</th>
<th>Hector Miller</th>
<th>Lori Wilkins</th>
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<td>Tuesday 16 August</td>
<td>Eddie Scholtens</td>
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<td>Wednesday 17 August</td>
<td>Chelsea Bird</td>
<td>Damian Howison</td>
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<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Monday 22 August</th>
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<td>Tuesday 23 August</td>
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<td>VCE Parent Teacher</td>
<td>Interviews</td>
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<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Monday 29 August</th>
<th>Anna Stewart</th>
<th>Lewis McCavour</th>
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<td>Tuesday 30 August</td>
<td>Mary Hoare</td>
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<td>Wednesday 31 August</td>
<td>Chris Joyce</td>
<td>Lyn Porter</td>
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COLES – SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS

We are collecting Coles Vouchers for our school Sports Department. It would be appreciated if families of the school who shop at Coles Supermarket would please collect these vouchers to help support our school in gaining some free sports equipment. Vouchers to be handed into collection box in the SWC.
Getting Smarter, Quicker!

Something terrific has been happening at our college this year.

At the beginning of the year we embarked upon a new program known as QuickSmart. QuickSmart is a numeracy intervention program that has been thoroughly researched and designed by a dedicated team of experts at the University of New England. It is aimed at developing rapid recall of the basic number facts and the skills to be able to use these facts in the context of problem solving.

QuickSmart is not simply a resource. It is a carefully structured, outcomes-driven program of instruction where two students meet with their instructor 3 times a week for 30 weeks of the year. Instructors require training which is delivered by the very experts who designed the program. This year Kathy Box, Leonie Gleeson and Damian Howison are spending 6 days throughout the year being trained along with other instructors of other schools in the Horsham area.

At this stage of the year we are not quite halfway through the 30 weeks, however, the success of the program is quickly becoming evident. Students generally are making substantial progress. We know this because we have the results. But it’s not only results that speak of success. We are seeing students growing with confidence, students determined to improve, and students even whistling down the corridor on their way to their next session of QuickSmart. We have the smiles when goals have been achieved, the eagerness when students play numeracy games, and the students’ own expressed recognition that something good is happening for them. There are very few programs for numeracy where these intangible elements are so visible.

It is quite exciting to think about the results we will see by the end of the year. What is becoming clear is that the program promises to make a huge difference to the broader education of the students involved. And we are really looking forward to the stories that might be told in 4, 5 and 6 years time when our QuickSmart students are graduating and moving beyond our college.

Volunteers Needed

With QuickSmart we have the chance to make a huge difference to the education of our students, not just those completing the program but, indirectly, the entire student body. This year QuickSmart has been operating as a pilot program with only 8 students being offered the 30 week program. In 2012 we would like to at least double this number in Years 7 and 8. To make this possible the college is seeking interested volunteers who may be willing to give of their time as instructors. It is hoped that there are some parents or grandparents within the college community who would like to consider being part of this fantastic program. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the college.
CALLING ALL SCRAPBOOKERS, WRITERS AND CRAFTY PEOPLE!
THE MARY JOURNALS PROJECT

We need your help! To commemorate Australia’s first saint, the staff and students of MacKillop College began the Mary Journals Project last year. We sent 36 art journals out into the world to share and celebrate of Mary’s MacKillop’s life and sainthood. Now we’d like to have one complete journal filled entirely with work from the Swan Hill community and we’re asking as many people as possible to contribute to its completion.

Initially targeting Josephite schools, the first journals were intended to be passed from person to person, each new contact adding a few pages of work to the journal. We also took journals to Italy on the canonisation trip and interstate, passing them to people we met along the way. We asked people to “write, collage, scrapbook, paint, draw, sew, create poetry, write your favourite quotes, show/tell us about you, where you live, what matters to you, your hopes for the future, create a map, graph or table of your district or the journal’s travels, use the illustrations or text that are already part of the book as your starting point and alter or decorate them further, add a postcard, newspaper article or photo’ from your district or life”.

The journals were due to be returned to us in October to coincide with the first anniversary of the canonisation, however our first one came back to us from Queensland at the beginning of this term and was filled with all kinds of interesting writings, artworks and scrapbooking. The results were extraordinarily moving, and fascinating in their insights.

Now we need the MacKillop College and Community to help with our Swan Hill version of the journal. Please help the Mary’s Journal Project by making 1-4 pages that we can stick in the Swan Hill journal and/or pass on this message to someone you know who might be interested in contributing to the project. Pages should be no more than 11.5cm x 17cm (so they’re quite small) and can be left at the front office or posted to the College when completed. We will then add them to the journal.

Pages do not have to be about Mary MacKillop or religion – they can be about whatever you like; in the spirit of Mary MacKillop anything can go into the journal that is positive, humane and supportive of others.

Please help complete the commemorative journal and leave your personal mark (literally) on the historic occasion of the canonisation.
For further information please contact jpilgrim@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au

Many thanks, Jules Pilgrim.
AMELIA BRUGGY

SA Junior Heifer Expo
On the 18th of July I travelled to Adelaide to participate in the South Australian Junior Heifer Expo, which is renowned for being the best Junior Heifer Expo in the Southern Hemisphere. When we arrived we were directed where to unload the animals. Then we were told where we were to sleep for the week. I was sleeping in a locker which is about 2m x 3m which I shared with another girl from SA. The lockers did not have a roof and it was right next to my heifer “Morningtime Roan 09-18 (Rain)”. She was the biggest heifer there and the only one with horns, most the others were lowlines or dexters. The temperature during the week ranged from 0 degrees to 14 so we were very cold at night.

After tea we were put into groups for the evening sessions which were games and skits. Dave Foster, the world champion wood chopper, did a motivational speech for us. He was a very humorous speaker.

The following day we were up a 5am to wash our cattle then feed and water them. Washing the cattle involves skill, talent and determination with the scrubbing brush and lots of shampoo AND conditioner! Then we blow dried them and sprayed their coats with a product which makes their coats shiny. After feeding them we had breakfast and then we began our lectures and tutorials for the day.

During the day we were fortunate enough to have the inventor of “Breeding Betsy” (an artificial cow) which was designed to teach the youth in the cattle industry how to Preg Test a cow. It was a terrific experience and I would like to further my skills by completing the Animal Husbandry Certificate when I am 16 so I am qualified to Preg Test and Artificially Inseminate (AI) cows. We also did a session which was designed to teach us new techniques in how to judge interbreed cattle by judging apples, oranges, potatoes, lemons and eggs. I think this session was very worthwhile and I will be able to use what I learnt during my career in judging cattle.

We also did Ringcraft which is leading your animal around the main arena with a halter and a spring nose clip and lead. This session was a practice for the Junior Handlers Competition which was held the following day. Other sessions were held throughout the day including Animal Structure for judging, Animal Preparation for showing and cattle nutrition.

We had very long days and we were pleased to crawl into our swags around 11pm each night. The Following day was Heifer judging so we were up a 5am again to rewash them ready for the animal to be judged. This involved washing and blow-drying them, spraying them with a hairspray, polishing their horns and feet, cleaning their ears and eyes, polishing the leather halters with brasso, and self-preparation. Unfortunately “Rain” played up and had to be handed over to Phil McLaughlin (a professional cattle handler) so she did not place.

The next day was Junior Judging. I received excellent comments from the judge regarding my ability to judge the animals which involves assessing the animals and then speaking on the microphone regarding your impressions and placing of the animals. During judging of the animals you are assessing muscle depth, structure, length, ability, femininity, muscle development and tracking amongst other things.

That afternoon we had Junior Handling where the individual is being assessed on the way we prepare and handle our animal in the show ring, including self-preparation. “Rain” responded to my verbal commands the way we practice at home although she was very uptight about being out of familiar surroundings. Hundreds of people were in the grandstand watching and taking photos.

After the judging we had presentations to the exhibitors and I was fortunate enough to win the encouragement award for the 12-14 year olds out of 40 people. With winning this award I was asked to write a letter of thanks to the sponsors who donated the prize which consisted of a metal comb for the animals and a sash. When I reach the over 18 age group I will compete in the senior
herdsman division and hope to win the main prize which is a 7 month scholarship on a cattle station in America.

Throughout the week I learned several new skills which I will be able to use in the future, particularly in the state final of Junior Judging 15-25 year olds which is being held at the Royal Melbourne Show which I qualified for during the Bendigo show and National Beef Week 2011. I have also learned many skills which will assist me in my planned career in the beef industry and I look forward to returning to Adelaide to participate again next year.

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**St Mary MacKillop College Enrolments**

A reminder to all Grade 6s and their families, MacKillop College Enrolments are now being taken for any families wishing to enrol their child in Year 7 in 2012. **Enrolments will close on Wednesday 31st August, 2011.** Information booklets and College tours can be arranged through the school office. For any further information please contact Mandy McCallum on 5032 9771.

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**CULINARY CHALLENCE**

On the 27th July MacKillop College VET Hospitality students participated in an in school ‘Culinary Challenge’ to determine the two highest scoring students. The students were required to cook three courses in a set time; they were judged on their cooking skills as well as OH&S and their organisational skills. The winners for the day were Sharni O’Connor and Akos Aron; these girls will now go on to compete in teams at the Regional Final. Teams will challenge for the honour of representing their school and the Swan Hill Region at the Grand Final in Echuca. The Swan Hill Region winners will challenge teams from Echuca, Deniliquin and Shepparton regions. Congratulations to all students who gave their best on the day and the best of luck to Sharni and Akos in the next leg of the competition, which will be held on the 24th August.
TRANSITION DAY 2
MacKillop College
APPLICATION FOR BETTY CURRIE SCHOLARSHIP – 2012

Student Details:
Surname: .......................................................... First Name: ..........................................................
Date of Birth: .......................................................... Religion: ..........................................................
Present School: .......................................................... Year Level 2012: ..........................................................
Home Address: .................................................................................................................................

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

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

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

Has the student applied for enrolment at MacKillop College for 2012? Yes / No
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
MacKillop College
P.O. Box 971
Swan Hill, 3585