“Never see a need without doing something about it”  
(St Mary of the Cross MacKillop)

How Will You Re-Create Your World?

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

“Be of good heart. God is infinitely good, loving and waiting, willing to carry you when you ask. But don’t be afraid when you see God stepping over great precipices that you are going to fall or that the way is not known. And when it is steep and long and strange and perilous, and there seems a much better way close by, don’t doubt that the divine way is the best way. It is true, God’s ways are not our ways but if we look more closely into it, we see that God is the way just as God is the truth and the life.” (Julian Tenison Woods).

Sympathy

The College community has recently offered our deepest condolences to Staff Member Leanne Cook on the death of her Father recently. May He Rest in Peace.

Grease – the High School Musical

Congratulations to all who were involved in the production of Grease last week – all four performances were brilliant and have received high praise. I am particularly proud of our students who performed more than admirably and gave so much of their time and to their parents who supported them. I also wish to thank the many Staff Members who were involved. In an already crowded life at school, all extended themselves generously and for the benefit of the students.

September 5th

I am writing to inform you as early as possible that it may be necessary to ask some year levels not to come to school on September 5th as a number of our Staff may take the opportunity to protest about lack of development in negotiations about pay and conditions. I will inform Parents as soon as possible when more details are known.

Contact Details

Please update us on your contact details if you have shifted house or changed your landline or mobile phone numbers. It is extremely important that we have current contact details for all families.

Late to School

Please be aware that some students are constantly late to school. We are now requesting those students to remain behind after school to make up the lost time but rest assured when this happens parent contact will be made.
Attachment
I include with this newsletter an article I wrote for the Guardian recently which some of you may have missed.

Rob Aron
Principal

CAREERS NEWS

VTAC Applications
Year 12 students wishing to undertake further study in 2013 should now have in their possession a 2013 VTAC Guide. This Guide contains course information from all Victorian Universities, TAFE and Independent Colleges.

Many students are taking the opportunity to come and seek clarification and guidance on how to apply, and also to get further course information. We are also encouraging students to apply for the Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) as well as investigate scholarship and accommodation options. The Careers Office is open every day during school hours, and staff are available to meet with students and their parents if required. Please call and arrange a time for a meeting.

Work Experience
Approximately one third of our Year 10 students have so far taken the opportunity to do a Work Experience placement – in a variety of settings ranging from Childcare, Plumbing, Accounting, Aged Care, Hospitality and Civil Engineering. Every one of these students reports back full of enthusiasm about their experience, and believe it was a useful tool for them to learn more about that particular industry.

If there is any student still considering Work Experience, they are encouraged to come to the Careers Office to collect the paperwork as soon as possible, remembering Term 4 is a very hectic time with Chartsec, end of unit assessment and exams.

All Year 10 students are in the process of meeting with Mrs McMahon and Mrs Brady and receiving information that will assist them to make informed decisions regarding their VCE subject selection and possible further study plans.

One booklet is a VTAC publication titled CHOICE – VCE studies and the ATAR in 2015, and the other is a newspaper supplement VCE Planner, Year 10 Guide. We encourage all students and parents to read these and be as well informed as you can for VCE and beyond.

Minerals Summer School and Women in Engineering Camp
The University of NSW (UNSW) is conducting a Women in Engineering Camp and Minerals Summer School in January, 2013 for current Year 10 or 11 students who are interested in Science and Engineering. Students will visit either the UNSW campus and mine sites in the Hunter Valley to learn more about opportunities in the Australian minerals industry, or Engineering sites around Sydney. For further information please go to www.unsw.edu.au Applications close, September 14.

CURRICULUM

After School Homework & Study Help – Term 3

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FAITH MATTERS
St Mary MacKillop – A Woman with a Dream

Last week St Mary MacKillop College community celebrated JJAMM Week. This is always a very vibrant and positive week with students and staff joining in a wide range of lunchtime activities to celebrate our link to St Mary MacKillop, our heritage, our heritage and our future. This year saw students watching movies, wearing pyjamas to school, eating jam doughnuts, making felties, playing dodgeball, making movies and newscasts and decorating cupcakes. The Solemnity of St Mary MacKillop was celebrated with a whole school Mass. This was a beautiful and very prayer filled occasion. It is always a significant experience when our college comes together for Liturgy. Following Mass the whole college enjoyed a BBQ lunch and we were very lucky to have good weather for the day. Friday afternoon Homerooms walked down to the stadium to participate in the annual Afternoon Activities. Again strong school spirit was evident as the closely contested events were won overall by Tenison House (which I believe is a hat trick! Go Tenison!!) A person may wonder why we look to St Mary MacKillop for inspiration. Many of us may not understand her life and her choices and for some the fact that she is a saint may seem insignificant. Monica Cavanagh rsj writes about Mary's relevance for people today:

Mary MacKillop was a young woman with a dream to make a difference in our world. Her dream encompassed opening simple schools where there was no class distinction, offering refuge to the most neglected, and bringing practical help to families. Mary felt very strongly the widespread ignorance of the whole of the spiritual dimension of life and dedicated her life to bringing the message of God’s love to all whom she encountered. She was a passionate woman whose youthful spirit has touched the ‘heart and soul’ of the Australian people. She embodies all that is best in our Australian nation and its people. Her spirit and values continue to inspire young people today to make a difference in these times.

One of the appeals that ‘saints’ have for people in the world today, is that they are ordinary people who have looked at life and, in the day to day circumstances in which they lived, succeeded in becoming a special person who touches into the deepest yearnings of the heart. Mary MacKillop was no exception. She was an ordinary woman who lived an extraordinary life. She was a woman who dared to love. She knew that God loved her and she responded to this love with confidence and courage.

Thank you to all staff who made JJAMM week run so smoothly and especially to our students who participate so well, who gather for Liturgy with respect and with open hearts and who hopefully will look forward to JJAMM week in 2013.
God of hospitality open our hearts to the abundance of your love. May we like St Mary MacKillop trust in your loving care for us in all the situations of our lives. May we share this love in our wounded world. Saint Mary of the Cross, open to God’s presence, pray for us.

VET HOSPITALITY

Over the past two weeks the Hospitality class has been extremely busy catering for two community functions. On Wednesday 15th August the 2nd Year VET Hospitality students catered for the Swan Hill Lions Club meeting. This was a part of the student’s major assessment where they had to plan and prepare a buffet. The students decided on an Italian theme and prepared two courses consisting of different pasta dishes and salads for main and tiramisu and Italian trifle for dessert. The students also used their barista skills to serve coffee from our new coffee machine. I would like to thank the Lions Club for their generous donation of $200; this is a further endorsement of the students’ abilities and endeavours. This money will be used to purchase some equipment and to take the students on a local excursion.

On the 18th August eight of the VET Hospitality students, Dave Daly our chef and myself catered for 104 CFA guests at the Italian Social Club. The students helped prepare and serve two courses with a choice of two dishes per course. In this environment the students were able to experience the organisation that is required for such an event and the pressure that they need to work under to make the night a success.
I wish to thank the students for the time and effort they put into both functions and also to Dave Daly for giving his time and expertise so willingly.

Mandy McCallum
Vet Hospitality Teacher

ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
All parents, family and friends are invited to visit and cheer on our students at our Athletics Carnival which will take place on Tuesday 28th August. The carnival will be conducted at Ken Harrison Reserve and events will commence at 10.00am sharp. As a guide for the running events schedule, the 100m commence at 10.00am beginning with the U/14 girls, the 1500m begins at 10.30am, the 200m at 11.15am, the 800m at 12 noon, the 400m at 12.30pm and the 4 x 100m relays are at 1.45pm.

Field events rotate throughout the day between 10.00am and 1.00pm. If any parents would like an exact copy of the program and schedule of events, there will be a few made available in the Front Office on Monday 27th August which may be picked up throughout the day.
We are looking forward to welcoming visitors at our 2012 carnival. If you have any further queries, please contact Chris Joyce.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION – GREASE TEENAGE MUSICAL
After many months of rehearsal, the School Production finally hit the stage last week. A Matinee was held last Wednesday for over 360 primary school students. The night performances were also played in front of large crowds, with Thursday and Friday night filled to capacity. All students, both those on stage and in the wings, produced outstanding work, showing both maturity, commitment and enthusiasm. A big thank you to these students for an outstanding job!

Special thanks to Mrs Alison Wright and her VET Music students for assisting with music and sound, Mrs Sally Op’tHoog for working with vocals, Mrs Julie Pilgrim for her boundless energy in organising costumes, Mrs Laurel Harrison and Mrs Neetu Mago for their assistance backstage and Mrs Linda Roberts, Ms Leanne Cook and Mrs Melissa Roberts for the massive amount of time and effort they spent working with all the cast to ensure a fantastic show was produced.

And a huge thanks to all other staff and students who assisted in any way. We really appreciated your support.
The Production Team
Become a WEP Exchange Student!

Experience this once in a lifetime opportunity to travel and study at an overseas school with the support of a volunteer host family. Every year WEP students around the world exchange their schools, cultures, families and often languages during our summer, semester and year programs to over 20 countries worldwide.

Experience the wonderful world of WEP!
Choose from over 100 programs to over 20 countries around the world to live and study for a summer, semester or year. WEP is offering Early Bird Specials for programs departing in July-Sept 2013!

Find out more!
- Visit www.wep.org.au and request a free information pack
- Attend one of WEP’s information evenings
- Call 1300 884 733 (for the cost of a local call)

Last Information Session in Term 3 in Melbourne:
28 August / 7:30-9pm
Kew Court House
188 High Street
Kew / Melbourne
Child's Education
Be Involved in Your