Dear Families

Last week a privacy notice from Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA) went out to all parents. ACARA are requesting information from all schools on student backgrounds. If you do not wish your child's details to be given to ACARA you must notify the school office by Wednesday 8th August. The information requested will not identify your child by name.

As part of the Church’s celebrations for the Year of Grace a five day festival of grace has been organised. This is a series of events and workshops and will run from the 15th - 19th August with the majority of these events being held in and around St Patricks Cathedrals. Grace fest will commence with Mass at St Patricks Cathedral on 15th August at 7pm. Programs are available from the office for anyone interested.

Wednesday August 8th is the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop). St Mary was canonised by Pope Benedict XVI in October 2010. Mary was the eldest child of Alexander and Flora MacKillop and was educated at private schools and by her father. To help support her family, she worked as a governess and store clerk while still in her teens. She became a tutor in Melbourne and then a teacher in Portland in 1862. She established a "Seminary for Young Ladies" in her home and was known for her holiness, her constant work in the local church, and for turning to prayer before making decisions. Mary and her sister moved to Penola where together with Father Julian Woods she opened a free Catholic school for the poor. Mary co-founded the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart in 1866, Australia's first religious order. Mary MacKillop soon had seventeen schools under her care. She spent the rest of her life travelling from house to house in the order, working for improved education for the poor, and general conditions for the Aborigines. Her order continues its good work today with hundreds of sisters in Australia, New Zealand, and Peru.

Thank you to everyone for your patience and co-operation with the current parking restrictions. A reminder that there is no parking inside the school grounds for parents either before or after school unless you have a need to park in the disabled parking bays and have spoken to office staff about this. Drop off in the morning is drop off only, you are not to park in the drop off area and then go into the school to see staff, pay fees or conduct any other business. This severely disrupts the flow of traffic and causes a build up on Bulmans Rd which makes it so much more difficult for others to access the school. Parking inside the grounds of Catholic Regional College is not permitted, this parking is for school staff only. With patience and consideration for others everyone will be able to access the school in a timely manner.

Many students recently have brought mobile phones, iPod's and other electrical devices to school. Students should not have iPod's, or other electrical devices at school. These items are to be left at home. Those children who, for a range of reasons, need to have a mobile phone at school are to hand these in to the office at the beginning of the day and collect them from there at the end of the day.

Best wishes everyone for a great week.

Carmel Marantelli

PRINCIPAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th - 8th August</td>
<td>Camp for 5/6M, 5/6N &amp; half 5/6P</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th - 10th August</td>
<td>Camp for 5/6 J, 5/6K &amp; half 5/6P</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th August</td>
<td>Art Show 4:00pm - 6:30pm</td>
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<td>20th - 24th August</td>
<td>Book Week</td>
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<td>25th August</td>
<td>Trivia Night 7:00pm</td>
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Reflection - Grace

I do not at all understand the mystery of grace - only that it meets us where we are but does not leave us where it found us.

Ann Lamont
**Personal Investigations.**

Our Inquiry topic is Critters, Creepers and Creators and we’ve been working very hard on our own topics. We have found our own information and have three weeks to finish our projects. *(2QS)*

In Inquiry we have been investigating about creepers, critters and creatures. We got to pick our topics. We had to pick something about the environment. *(2/3RT)*

**Science.**

On Fridays we sign up to a Science experiment where we learn to be scientists and write up what we did. Last week we learnt about wings, seeds, how plants drink, water tension, clouds and feeding birds. *(2QS)*

On Friday we did science experiments. We had to choose an activity. There were 6 different activities to choose from. *(2/3RT)*

**Reading Response.**

We do reading responses to different texts we read. We have to write a synopsis which is about what we’ve read. *(2QS)*

**Class Liturgy.**

In 2QS, we run our own class liturgies where we work in planning groups to share a bible story, songs and prayers to God in front of the class. *(2QS)*

Last week we learnt how to run a liturgy. We wrote our prayers. Everyone sat in a circle and we started to sing together. Then we started our prayers. Then we sang together. *(2/3RT)*

**Writing.**

In the 2/3 area we have been learning to paraphrase in writing. We have been learning to write in our own words. In term 3 we have been writing facts on our topic. We have been learning to write lots of stories. *(2/3RT)*

**Excursion.**

We went on an excursion to CERES and learnt lots about the environment. We held worms, picked up rocks and saw what creatures live under them and went netting for water bugs. We also learnt words like habitat, predator and prey. *(2QS)*

**Reciprocal Reading.**

We do reciprocal reading in our classroom in the back room. We look at hard words that we don’t understand and highlight them and discuss them. We practise different reading strategies like reading on to the end of a sentence. *(2QS)*

**Religion.**

In Religion we heard a story from the bible called ‘The widows Offering’. In the story there was a widow that gave all of her money to people. Some of the rich people only gave half of their money and kept the rest for themselves. We learnt that we should do whatever it takes to help people. *(2/3RT)*

**News at Nine.**

We do News and Nine in the morning where we have to share all kinds of news to the class about community news, Melton news, school news and personal news. *(2QS)*
SCHOOL FEES

3rd Instalment for School fees are now overdue
Fees can be paid in a number of ways: by cash, cheque
EFTPOS - cash, cheque, credit card
Direct debit
Credit via internet banking
Centrepay via Centrelink / Bpay

ST CATHARINE OF SIENA TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday 25th August

This will be St. Catherine of Siena’s major fundraiser for the year, so remember to mark this date in your diary. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

We are currently looking for businesses to donate goods, vouchers, discounts or services. So if you or anyone you know could assist us in any way.

Please contact Donna Simpson on 0413 545 166.

ART SHOW
Date: Thursday 16th August 2012
Time: From 4pm-6.30pm
Where: Throughout main building

Come and enjoy a night looking at Art work from children across the school. Parents are encouraged to come between 4pm and 6.30pm to have a quick look at our Art Show. This will be a great event to acknowledge all of the work that is done in Art throughout the year!!!

Tea & Coffee provided for Parents

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10</td>
<td>Shirley Dobson, Sonya Cutajar, Liz Eagle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13</td>
<td>Jamie Turner, Joanne Bowen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14</td>
<td>Paula Syme, Jodie Harvey</td>
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SAVER PLUS

Match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to $500. The Smith Family is looking for new participants in your local area.

You may be eligible if you or your partner have:
- a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- a child at school or starting next year
- some regular income from work

Contact Karrie Millson, your local Saver Plus Worker: 9312 0932 / 0419 607 295 or karrie.millson@thesmithfamily.com.au.

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.
Spacer Use in Schools/Preschools: Advice for Parents & Carers

As of the 1st July 2012, schools and preschools in Victoria will be implementing a new policy in regards to single person spacer use.

This means that schools and preschools will no longer be able to wash, sterilise and re-use spacers and face masks from their asthma emergency kits when assisting students and children with asthma symptoms.

Spacers should always be used when administering reliever ‘puffer’ medication because:

- Using a spacer with a ‘puffer’ ensures that more medication reaches the airways
- Spacers are much easier for children to use than a ‘puffer’ alone, and allows school and preschool staff to help students/children during an asthma attack, often in an emergency situation
- Spacers are an essential part of the Asthma First Aid procedure that Victorian schools/preschools are instructed to follow

Asthma first aid kits should only ever be used as a back-up for when a child with asthma does not have their own spacer available, or if it is a first asthma attack or the cause of breathing difficulty is unknown. Your child’s school/preschool may implement a policy where parents/carers are responsible for the cost of the spacer if one must be used from the asthma emergency kit.

Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer (and a compatible face mask if under 5 years old) is always available to school/preschool staff. To ensure that a spacer is not left at home, we would recommend that parents/carers purchase a second spacer for their child to have with them at school/preschool at all times if possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Married couples, we encourage you to prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around catholic values but you don’t need to be catholic to attend. There is no group sharing.

Our weekends in 2012 are: 10-12 August and 12-14 October in Melbourne.

For further information and bookings

contact Marianne & Marcel Van den Bronk (03) 9733 0997 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au