

# newsletter

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Deidre Young

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## Principal's Message Issue 20 20 October 2017

### DATE CLAIMERS

**Friday 3 November**

All Saints' Boonah  
60 Year Celebrations

**Monday 6 and**

**Tuesday 7 November**

New Staff Induction

**Friday 10 November**

Remarkable Moments  
Celebrations

**Friday 17 November**

Opening and Blessing of  
McAuley College—Stage One

### **Uniform Shop**

New operating hours:

Tuesday 8:00 -10:00 AM

Thursday 1:30 - 3:30 PM

### **Enrolments**

We are currently enrolling students for  
Year 7 and 8 for 2018 and Year 7 for  
2019.

The establishing of a new school is hard work and complex. Like many organisations, there is enormous amounts of paperwork that must exist and be reflected in policies and procedures for a school to gain and maintain accreditation. It safeguards our students and their families so when they enrol in a school, they know mandatory requirements exist for that place to be delivering an education to young people in a safe learning environment.

Last Thursday, the College enjoyed our first visit from the National States Schools Accreditation Board (NSSAB) to review our documentation to support our application to move from Provisional to Full Registration. The focus of the visit amongst many things was to review areas such as Curriculum Planning, timetable structures and overviews for Years 7 to 10 aligned with the Australian Curriculum; Students with Disabilities and subsequent enrolment processes and adjustments made for learners in our planning; Student Protection training and processes for staff and awareness raising for students and parents; Consultative processes across decision making within the school community; and Workplace Health and Safety processes to support the delivery of a safe and supportive work environment for everyone; to name just a few.

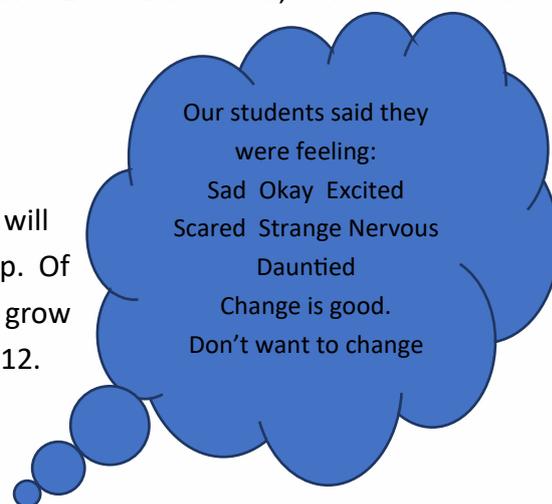
I am very pleased to report to the community that McAuley College received excellent feed back from the accessor. It was my privilege to be on the receiving end of these comments where the accessor acknowledged our thorough preparation and presentation of documentation to support the processes we have in place and how impressed the accessor was with the quality of what we have achieved in such a short timeframe. Whilst we are yet to receive the formal report from the NSSAB, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the staff of McAuley College for their amazing work in establishing these foundation practices across all aspects of College life for the benefit of our students and families. Well done to us for being acknowledged that this work is exemplary.



Enjoy the photo presentation at the end of this edition of our Bojaxhiu Celebration Day. Each House, in our inaugural year, have done a great job on their celebration day to educate, serve and celebrate. Well done to Bojaxhiu for organising the service project linked to the Zonta Club of Beaudesert Area to assemble birthing kits. Simple kits that are provided to women in third world countries that significantly increase the chances of both mother and her new born baby surviving. These kits save lives in a real and practical way. The Zonta Club of Beaudesert Area assembled 1000 kits in total, of which the Year 7 McAuley College students completed 110.

And finally, on Thursday, I spoke to students about some changes they will experience next year. One of these is linked to their Pastoral Care group. Of course, they will always remain in their current House group but as we grow our Pastoral Care (PC) groups will be vertical in nature, being Year 7 to 12.

This means to accommodate our new Year 7 students in 2018, we will need to divide our current PC groups into two. It would be good to speak with your son or daughter to monitor how they are feeling about these pending changes. It is an exciting time for our community to be growing and welcoming new members but we all process and handle change in different ways.



**Congratulations** to Charlie Love who has been chosen as a Baton Bearer for the Commonwealth Games (see Sports News for more information)

In Mercy,

**Deidre Young**  
Principal

## ***BELIEVE... In action***

### **The importance on developing altruism**

As parents and teachers, we are in the business of opening up for young people reason and means for them to aspire to be all they can be, and for them to become members of society who are critically aware, responsibly engaged, and compassionately committed. It is an extraordinary task and one that calls us to be purposeful in what it is that we ask young people to commit to. At McAuley College we have the unique opportunity of establishing our culture. We are able to draw on research, our experience and the Mercy charism in helping to shape the learning and teaching activities that we engage in as a College, both in the classroom and beyond.

One area that we are very purposeful about developing is in the promotion of a culture of service. This fits well with Gospel values, the Catholic Church's sense of social justice and the witness of Catherine McAuley. In addition to this, our students benefit immensely from devolving the value of altruism in their life.



Sean Grover, psychotherapist and author, reflected that: *“During my twenty years as a psychotherapist working with young people and their parents, I’ve witnessed certain youth make sudden leaps in maturity that catapulted them far ahead of their peers. In fact, their amplified sense of well-being astonished me and their parents. What was the magic ingredient that was added to their lives? It was the power of altruism. That’s right, teaching kids the value of helping others was instrumental in improving their mood and behaviour—and reducing bullying. It also roused in them a **greater sense of personal worth**, a key condition for **fostering feelings of happiness and empowerment.**”*



Abi, Sofiya, Ollie and Peter with a St Vincent de Paul Christmas hamper

Encouraging our students to be mindful of the needs of others and to take action where and when they can builds personal happiness and a sense of empowerment. This term the College has teamed with the Beaudesert **St Vincent de Paul Society in donating Christmas hampers.** Students are

asked to donate Christmas type food items (e.g. drinks, chips, lollies, cereal, and biscuits) that will be collected in their Pastoral Care groups and donated to St Vincent de Paul in the final week of our term.

We invite parents to please be generous in your support of this appeal. The donations are valuable and will be greatly received by those in need in our community. However, the impact of being generous to such appeals is a wonderful witness to our children and assists them in becoming members of society who are critically aware, responsibly engaged, and compassionately committed.

Thank you to all parents for your ongoing commitment to your child’s education at McAuley College.

**David Harris**

**Assistant Principal— Religious Education**

You can read Sean Grover’s article in full at <https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/when-kids-call-the-shots/201511/4-ways-altruism-produces-happy-and-empowered-children>

## **LEARN... In action**

As we head quickly towards the Christmas break, yes it’s only six weeks until our first year as a College comes to a close, many of the things that we need to do to bring the academic year to a close are starting to appear on the horizon. One of those “things” is the return of student laptops in Week 8.

As part of our program to ensure student devices remain in top working order we bring them in at the end of the year to do maintenance. This maintenance will include an inspection of each device to check for wear and tear, repair of any hardware issue via Dell’s support program and re-imaging of the operating system. The purpose of re-imaging each machine is to ensure that the latest version of Windows 10 is installed and that all necessary software has been updated and installed to support student learning. This work will take place over the Christmas Holidays and students will be re-issued with their device at the start of Semester One next year.

To assist students and parents in this process information about the laptop return procedure will be posted in the Announcements section of the College and Parent Portal in Week 6. In essence this announcement will advise students and parents of the return date and that students must return the laptop, case and charger unit for inspection and, where necessary repair.

If students do encounter a problem with their laptop they need to see in the first instance our Teacher/Librarian Mrs Melanie Burr, who will make a determination as to how the issue will be resolved – repair by one of the Fawmatt IT Services engineers or technicians, a warrantee claim through Dell's support program or an Accidental Damages Cover claim. Generally speaking problems are resolved within 24 hours, although some issues may take longer. The most important part is that students report damage immediately so it can be resolved and the laptop returned as soon as possible.

Much rain has fallen over the last week, which is reminiscent of the weather we had at the end of Term One. Fortunately the rain is most welcome but it hasn't been accompanied by the flooding as in March. Hopefully the wet weather won't impede the performance of the Wallabies on Saturday night as they play the final game in this year's Bledisloe Cup at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane. After narrowly beating Argentina in the second half of their last game, I hope the Wallabies rise to the challenge and prevent the All Blacks from scoring another clean sweep in a Bledisloe series. Have a great fortnight and GO THE WALLABIES!!!

**Michael Darcy**  
Deputy Principal

## **SPORTS NEWS**

### **BREAKING NEWS**

On Wednesday 18 October, a small percentage of lucky Australians celebrated with their family, friends and local community after receiving news they will be part of the Queen's Baton Relay for the Commonwealth flame in 2018. At McAuley College we were lucky to be part of this celebration as we revelled in the news that our very own Charlie Love had been selected to be part of this historic event. Congratulations to Charlie and the Love family, we are so very proud of you and we cannot wait to share this journey with you in the coming months.



### **McAuley College Shares the Dream**

In Week One we were privileged to welcome special guest Ryan Tyack to the College as part of the QAS4Schools program. Ryan competed at the 2016 Rio Olympics in the Team Archery event and won a bronze medal for Australia, the first ever medal for the country in this particular event. Ryan spoke to students about the importance of healthy lifestyles, resilience and dedication in order to achieve their goals.



## Morning Training

Well done to all those students who have attended morning swimming training in the last two weeks. I know I have certainly enjoyed the new challenges presented by an alternative training activity.

**Amy Richards**  
Sports Coordinator



## Literacy Corner

Welcome back to a busy but exciting Term 4! This term, we will continue to recognise and celebrate remarkable moments that occur at McAuley College relating to our literacy. Students are confidently using their 'Editing Code' in classes, to proofread their writing - focusing on good punctuation and spelling, as well as making an effort to develop their ideas using 'enhanced sentences.' I am very excited by the pleasing progress in written literacies that are clearly noticeable in the data we are collecting, and reflecting upon.



This term, we will add to these great strategies by taking the time to reflect on accurate spelling. We will do this through daily opportunities in various situations, in order to identify and correct misspelt words.

## SCHOLASTIC Book Club LOOP

Dear Parents,

Book Club has been distributed to students. As Book Club is a cashless process, please continue to use Parent LOOP to finalise your orders by Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> October. If you require another copy of the LOOP instructions, please contact me. Thank you for supporting our eCentre, and for bringing the love of reading into your homes.

**Mrs Melanie Burr**

Teacher Librarian / Literacy Coordinator



### STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES Semester 2, 2017



#### Bus Fare Assistance

- Does your child attend a **school outside the Brisbane City Council** boundary?
- Does your family spend more than **\$25/week\*** on fares to and from school (\* \$20/week if you hold a concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a **publicly available bus** not owned or associated with the school?

#### Students With Disability

- Does your child have a **verified disability** that requires **transport assistance** to and from school?
- Has your school's learning support teacher assessed your child's **travel capability rating** as 'semi-independent' or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and

apply at [www.schooltransport.com.au](http://www.schooltransport.com.au) by **31 October 2017**.

Late applications will not be accepted.

## Information, Technology Design



### ITD has a new toy!!!!

Things are happening fast in our ITD department. Mr Way and Mrs Young were having lots of fun using our new laser cutter and we are very excited to have this technology in the College.



The laser cutter allows for rapid prototyping with extremely quick results. It can cut a range of materials including but not limited to timber, cardboard, acrylics (plastics), leather and even some fabrics.

The added functionality of this machine is that it also embosses and engraves not only on materials mentioned previously but on metal, masonry and glass as well. We look forward to putting this technology to use in Design and Technology and in STREAM club this term and well into the future.

The software is user friendly, and the process of finding/creating an image and printing can be done with ease in very little time. There are very few schools in Queensland with this Technology.

The laser cutter compliments a range of tools and machinery in the ITD space, students will enjoy a variety of experiences ranging from the essential skills of marking, cutting and shaping both metal and wood to producing tactile models on the 3D printers.

We look forward upskilling the next generation of makers, designers and innovators.

### Mr James Way -ITD Teacher



## Bojaxhiu Day Celebrations

The students of McAuley College learnt about Mother Teresa who worked with the poor of Calcutta. The students then when on to assemble birthing kits for women in developing countries and finally, what would a celebration without a party!!