



# newsletter

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Deidre Young

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## Principal's Message

Issue 7: 21 April 2017

Welcome to Term Two! I hope everyone had an enjoyable break and I see the students have returned with renewed energy and enthusiasm for another busy and full term ahead.

For me, I could not help but reflect on the journey so far. This time twelve months ago, I commenced officially in the role of Principal at McAuley College. That first day of Term Two looked very different to last Tuesday! At that time, no students had been enrolled, no staff had been employed except myself and whilst the land had been cleared, no building had commenced. What a lot has been achieved in such a short time.



I acknowledge the contribution of all staff, students, parents and community members to the growth of McAuley College over the last year. This term is all about future growth with enrolments being canvassed and finalised for 2018 and 2019; and Stage 2 Building plans well under way! The College will celebrate the Opening and Blessing of our Stage One building in May and then welcome the wider community to our inaugural Twilight "Open Day" in June. Already, of course, we have celebrated many special firsts this term. Congratulations to Mrs Richards for another successful inter house carnival, our inaugural Cross Country. Results will appear later in the newsletter but in particular I acknowledge the excellent participation of all students. Well done! Today, we marked ANZAC day with our inaugural ANZAC liturgy, which included a visit and presentation by the RSL Sub Branch. We are very much looking forward to marching on Tuesday to pay our respects with students in both Beaudesert and Boonah.

I look forward to catching up with parents at the Parent Teacher Student Interviews on Monday next week

In Mercy,  
**Deidre Young**  
Principal

## DATE CLAIMERS

### Monday 24 April

Parent Teacher Interviews

3:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Ellen Whitty Centre

### Tuesday 25 April

Public Holiday

ANZAC Day Parade

11:00am

## Farewell Fr Michael

It was with much sadness that we learnt the news that Fr Michael had been appointed to Parish Priest of the Ipswich Region to commence on 20 May. Fr Michael has been an integral part of our beginning story and a wonderful support for our College. We wish him all the best as he prepares for this new appointment and look forward to finding a time to celebrate his contribution to our community.



## BELIEVE... In action

### Beaten by the Kiwis again

I am quite used to the All Blacks giving the Wallabies a real lesson when it comes to rugby, however, the Land of The Long White Cloud is apparently a happier country than Down Under, as stated in a recent global report. The report, produced by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), a global initiative launched by the United Nations, released its results in March. The report uses six measurements to rank the happiness of a country's population. The one measurement that caught my attention was that of **generosity**. The United Nations recognises the centrality of generosity in helping to develop a sense of personal happiness. This recognition certainly resonates with the values of Christianity as espoused by Saints such as St Francis who is credited with the quote 'for it is in giving that we receive' and the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 20:35) which quotes Jesus as saying, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'.

The two key events of this month, Easter and ANZAC Day, point to a deep generosity. A generosity that gave the ultimate sacrifice so that others might live in freedom. Both the Easter events of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the events that were born on the beaches and slopes of Gallipoli remind us of the human ability to place others before oneself. On a lesser scale, though still significant, is the generosity we see displayed by people who volunteered to assist those who suffered as a result of Cyclone Debbie and subsequent flooding.

Generosity, a predictor of happiness, is a virtue that can be developed. It is valued at McAuley College and links with one of the **Productive Behaviours 4 Learning** that we emphasise at McAuley College namely, *Living with Integrity*. It is therefore extremely pleasing to note the generosity of our students in our **Syrian Lenten Appeal conducted through Term 1**. Together the staff and students of McAuley College raised \$555.20 which will be donated to the Caritas Middle-East Appeal. This is a very good total given the size of the College and the fact that this was our first appeal. The financial donation is commendable. However, as we stated at the beginning of the appeal, it is the development of the virtue of generosity and the acknowledgement that we can all play a part in alleviating the suffering of others that is the greater win. **Well done McAuley College** and thank you to all parents for your generous support of the appeal.

### Syrian Appeal donations by House

Bojaxhiu \$127.70	Frassati \$157.50	MacKillop \$127.00	Steele \$143.00
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In the abovementioned World Happiness Report, Australia ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in the world, the Kiwis rank 8<sup>th</sup>.

Term 2 will see the College engage in further BELIEVE ... in action activities including ANZAC services and a warm clothing drive for Frassati Day. Further details to follow.

Many thanks to all parents for your ongoing support of the College in the education of your child.

**David Harris**

**Assistant Principal – Religious Education**

## LEARNING... *In action*

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all survived the ravages of ex-Tropical Cyclone Debbie, which cut a path of destruction down the Queensland coast and into New South Wales. As I've driven in and out of Beaudesert this week I have been stunned this week by the damage that the flooding did in just a few days.

Despite the unpleasant end to Term One I hope that all in our community were able to enjoy the holiday break and celebrate Easter with family and friends.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Our first Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held next Monday 24 April from 3:30pm to 6:00pm, in the Ellen Whitty Centre. Interviews will be 10 minutes in length and parents will have the opportunity to meet with each of their daughter or son's teachers. As these are important meetings, we also encourage your daughter or son to attend the Interview with you.

The PTO software will remain open until Friday afternoon for parents to make interviews. However, if you need to cancel an interview after this time would you please contact the College Monday so that the relevant teachers can be informed.

### NAPLAN

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from Tuesday 9 May to Thursday 12 May. This year's NAPLAN tests have already received mention in the national and state media. In the last couple of days, we have heard statements from all state governments that they have withdrawn from the NAPLAN Online trials for this year. Although McAuley College was not involved in these trials it's important to note that NAPLAN will eventually move to an online format. I will be attending a NAPLAN Online Forum conducted by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission \*(QCEC) in July. The purpose of this forum is to provide an update on the progress of the online trials and to provide information about the proposed implementation time lines for the online assessment format. I will provide a further update on the progress of the online trials and to provide information about the proposed implementation time lines for the online assessment format. I will provide a further update following this forum.

The data collected from the NAPLAN tests is incredibly valuable in assisting teachers to support the learning needs of students in Australia. Within Brisbane Catholic Education (BCE) we are able to incorporate NAPLAN data with data from other testing data to form a clearer picture of each student's individual learning needs in the areas of literacy and numeracy and then address these needs more specifically. It's for this reason that I always encourage students to participate in the NAPLAN tests. Please don't hesitate to contact me at the College if you have any questions about this year's NAPLAN testing in Week 4.

### Literacy Committee

Towards the end of last term, we formed our College Literacy Committee. The purpose of this committee is to develop effective literacy strategies that will focus on our SMART Goal for this year. Teachers are then able to incorporate these strategies into classroom practices in all subjects to assist students in improving their literacy. I would like to thank Mrs Pamela Brechin and Mr Christopher Borg for accepting the invitation to be part of the committee with Mrs Melanie Burr and me. I'd also like to thank all our teaching staff for their willingness to be part of this committee. As our staff and student numbers grow in the College, so will the membership of this committee.

As we move towards ANZAC Day and the end of April the weather has become cooler and drier and the feeling of autumn is upon us. I hope you are enjoying our beautiful autumn days here in the Scenic Rim, have a great week.

### Michael Darcy



## ANZAC Day Parade

We are looking forward to participating in this year's ANZAC day parade and wish to remind our students that they are to be in full formal uniform. Also remember to bring a water bottle

#### Beaudesert:

11:00 am Form up around Woolworths carpark  
Brisbane Street  
11:15 am Step-off and march to the Cenotaph  
11:30 am Service commences

#### Boonah:

10:40 am Step-off and march from Church Street  
to The Memorial  
11:00 am Service commences

## SPORTS NEWS

The busy start to our sporting year has continued into Term Two, with the Inaugural Cross Country held yesterday and the commencement of our SECA sporting competition next week.

### Cross Country

It was a wonderful afternoon at the Beaudesert Showgrounds yesterday, with every single student participating. This is an incredible achievement and something to be very proud of as a College community. House spirit and team pride were truly evident throughout the carnival, with a tight race to the finish where MacKillop House were crowned Champions. Congratulations once again to Mr Borg, Mrs Heit, Mrs Field and the MacKillop team for another outstanding display of sporting prowess and participation. The sportsmanship demonstrated by students throughout the carnival was impressive, with all members of the College community showing respect and encouraging one another to do their best. A highlight of the afternoon was the novelty relay, with the finish between Steele and MacKillop house too close to call, resulting in a draw and the potential for an exciting rematch at the Athletics Carnival.

Special thanks must go to the parent volunteers who assisted at checkpoints and with timing throughout the afternoon. It was also fantastic to see so many spectators join us, including our 'Adopt a Cop' Constable Noel Kruger and many parents, showing the spirit within the McAuley College community and the excitement around our major school events.

Congratulations must go to our Inaugural Age Champions and new McAuley College record holders.

### Age Champions;

<b>12 Years Girls</b> Winner: Anna Brandon Runner up: Sofiya Bentley	<b>12 Years Boys</b> Winner: Max Hohl Runner up: Charlie Love
<b>13 Years Girls</b> Winner: Abi Henry Runner up: Veronica Wilson	<b>13 Years Boys</b> Winner: Samuel Blyton Runner up: Jake Robinson

### SECA Sport

Next Thursday afternoon we will participate in Round One of our SECA sporting competition. This will be an exciting time for students who will play netball, touch football and chess this year. SECA sport will take place on a Thursday afternoon during school time, with all students returning to the College in time for normal afternoon transport arrangements. The SECA competition is always a great opportunity for students to develop their skills, meet new people and experience competition in a fun and supportive environment. Students will be provided with further information at an assembly next week and permission forms will be sent home Monday.

In this increasingly digital world, school sport has now transitioned to utilise the most up to date technology, with information around fixtures and results available on the SECA website (<http://seca.sportzvault.com/>) and SECA Sports App for phones.

**While SECA sport will occur throughout Term Two and Three, fixtures will not occur every week, and for this reason we encourage students to regularly check the school calendar. Throughout this term, when no SECA fixture is scheduled, students will participate in team training at McAuley College and athletics preparation.**

### Morning Training

Morning training will continue each Friday of Term Two, with preparations for the upcoming SECA Cross Country Carnival and athletics based training later in the Term. All students are invited to attend, to enjoy some time with their peers and improve their overall fitness. Please encourage students to see me if they have any questions of if they would like a permission form.

### Upcoming Pacific Rim Trials

An updated list of Pacific District sporting trials can be found on the South Coast website;

<https://southcoastschoolsport.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/pacific%20rim/2017-pacific-district-trial-information-south-coast-website-current-as-of-6-03-2017.pdf>

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries about the nomination process.

**Mrs Amy Richards**  
**Sports Coordinator**



# CROSS COUNTRY FUN

## **Canteen**

We are very excited as our canteen is almost up and running and we are now looking for volunteers. The canteen will operate every day during the first break. Our volunteers will be required for a two-hour period from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. If you can help please complete the attached **Canteen Volunteer Form** and email back to [sbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au)

## **Uniform Shop**

Opening hours for next week are:

Monday 24 April      CLOSED

Wednesday 26 April    8:00am to 10:00am

**Patricia Robinson | St Mary's Catholic Primary & McAuley College Convenor**

## **Enrolments**

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

Interviews will be held on Monday 22, Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 May 2017. If you have a child or know of someone who would like to have their child attend McAuley College, please complete the online Enrolment Application form or contact the College for a hardcopy 5542 3000.

## **Social News**

Please see attachments for the following:

- Holt Bolt Obstacle Course
- The Scenic Rim Free Movie Nights
- National Volunteers' Week - Morning Tea

