

# newsletter

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Deidre Young

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## Principal's Message **Issue 5: 29 March 2019**

### DATE CLAIMERS

#### Wednesday 3 April

St Mary's Visit  
Year 5 Gala Day

#### Friday 5 April

Last Day of Term One  
Easter Liturgy  
Interhouse Cross Country

#### Tuesday 23 April

First Day of Term Two

#### Wednesday 24 April

ANZAC Day School Service  
11:00am

#### Thursday 25 April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday  
**Dawn Service 4:20am**  
**Beaudesert March 11:00am**  
Fall-in across from Woolworths  
**Boonah March 10:20am**

**Wednesday 15  
to Friday 17 May**  
Year 8 Camp

#### Accepting Enrolments for

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 for 2020

As we near the end of a very busy and exciting term at McAuley College, I am extremely grateful to the many staff, students and parents who give of their time, talents and skills so readily to make opportunities happen at our school. We have talked this year around our understanding of the word EXCELLENCE and been inspired by the words of Catherine McAuley to do the ordinary everyday extraordinarily well, each time we put on our boots.

Over the past few days, I have certainly witnessed this clearly, through our Bullying No Way day and MacKillop House Celebration. Thank you to Ms Ashleigh Beattie; and Mr James Way and Mrs Megan Field, respectively for their leadership of these celebrations; which will be featured elsewhere in the newsletter. Both events remind us of the responsibility we carry to be agents of change in our school and global community. As I have always said to the students, it is together we create the culture we vision at McAuley College; and it is our words and actions that have a huge impact on how that unfolds in our foundation years.

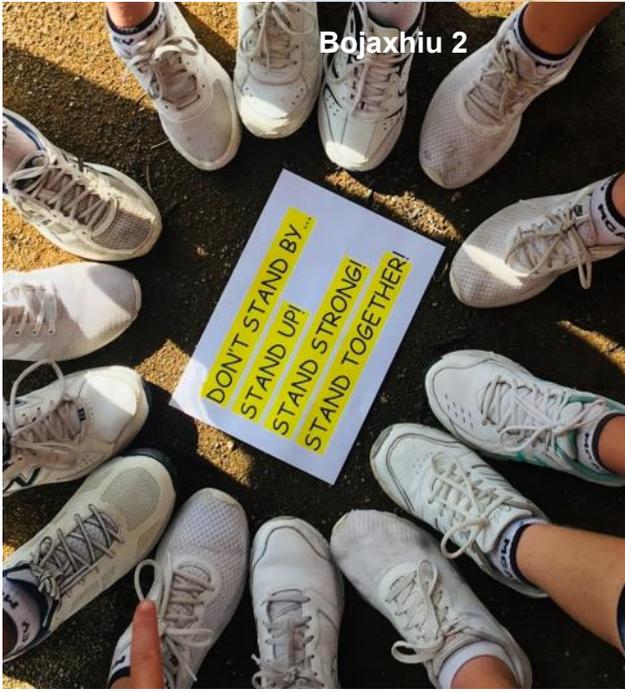


It was therefore my pleasure to 'judge' the entries from each Pastoral Care group in our Bullying No Way posters. It was a strong statement of how each individual and Pastoral Care group owned the part they play in building positive relationships with all in our community.

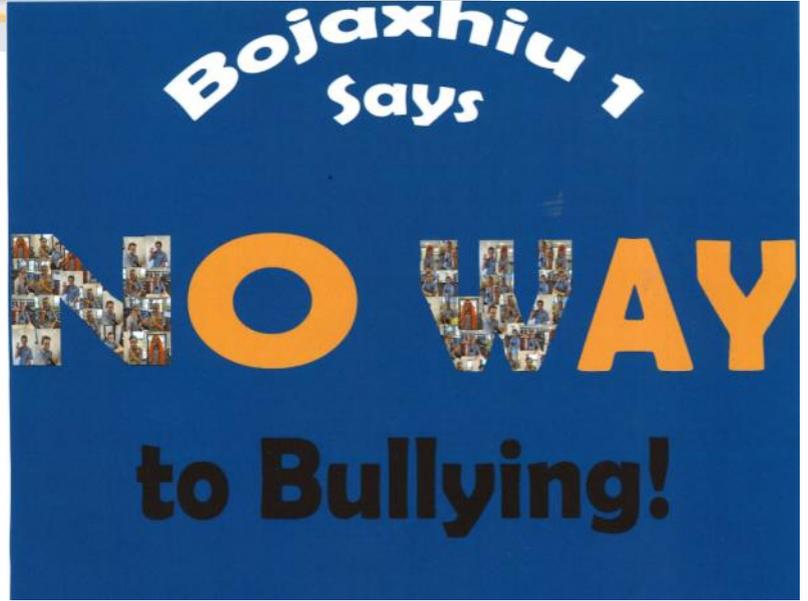




Frassati 1



Bojaxhiu 2



Steele 2



Steele 1



MacKillop 1 and 2

Learning is happening in classes right up until the end of term, and on Friday, we celebrate the end of the term with an Easter Liturgy, Pastoral Care shared lunches and picnics, and Interhouse Cross Country. I thank each parent for supporting your child to ensure they attend each day of school, right up until the last day. Our programs, such as the one planned for this Friday, help our students to build friendships and connections across their House and Pastoral Care groups, as well as with their teachers. Such participation, as shown through research, helps to build a student's resilience and capacity to cope. Surely, in today's world, these are skills and attribute we want in our young people.

**EVERY STUDENT, ON TIME, EVERY DAY!**

This is my last week for the term. I am taking the final week of term and enjoying some Long Service Leave. I will need no encouragement to turn off the devices and to slow down a little... I promise this will certainly see me re-energised on my return. I will miss however not being here to welcome the Year 5 students from St Mary's Primary School on their Gala Day this coming Wednesday.



As we look to next term, I remind parents of our important **Evening Expo** on **Tuesday 7 May, 5.00 – 7.00 pm**. Over the next week or so, if your son or daughter are required to assist with any of the displays or be a tour guide, you will receive a letter via Parent Permission.

Please spread the word to family and friends who may be considering the College for their sons or daughters. It is a great way to be introduced to all that is happening in this great school of ours.

A reminder that End of Term One Reports will be distributed via the Parent Portal next week, and parents should have access to PTO on the portal as well to book Parent Teacher Student Conversations for Monday 29 April from 3:30–6:00pm.

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16.*

Wishing everyone a safe holiday and blessed Holy Week.

Yours in Mercy

**Deidre Young**  
Principal



### **McAuley College nominated for Scenic Rim Business Excellence Awards**

I am pleased to announce that McAuley College was nominated for the Scenic Rim Business Excellence Awards in the Professional and Community Service category. We are thrilled to be in such wonderful company shortlisted for this category and look forward to celebrating business in the Scenic Rim with other nominees at the dinner this evening.

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

### **Decoding your teens brain**

I recently read an extract from David Gillespie's latest book entitled *Teen Brain*. For the last 10 years, former lawyer, Gillespie has devoted himself to exposing forces in today's society that work against our interests as consumers and citizens. His latest book is primarily a caution about the effects of screen time on teenagers. However, in the book he also more broadly discusses the importance of setting rules for teenagers. He argues that **in the teenage years it is critical to set and enforce boundaries** as 'the consequence of failing to enforce them can be just as disastrous and just as predictable as the consequences of leaving a two-year old to play on the freeway'.

**Teenagers require boundaries** to 'temporarily provide impulse control until the adolescents brain is developed enough to do it on its own'. Gillespie goes on to say that the **rules need to be clear and the consequences need to be unambiguously spelt out**. The consequences must then be calmly enacted if the rules are not followed. Gillespie says that it is important to 'stick to your guns'. A teenager will 'chuck a tantrum or freeze you out, or try to manipulate you into submission'. However, if you cave into pressure, and there will be pressure, then you send the wrong message about your care and concern for them and about what behaviours you are happy with.

Gillespie's book provides a good reminder of our role as adults to help teenagers to safely and productively navigate this time of immense growth. So this weekend when your teenager wants to go to that party, be clear about your expectations regarding their behaviour. When they attempt to 'pull an all-nighter gaming' have your predetermined consequence ready and apply it. **I encourage all parents to continue to have some of those boundaries discussions this weekend**. The harmful effects of teenagers being left to their own devices or given the freedom to make up their own rules can be significant and far reaching.

#### **SETTING AND ENFORCING RULES** General rules should cover these 7 areas:

1. Access to addictive devices
2. Access to addictive substances or behaviours
3. Access to dangerous activities
4. Contribution to the household
5. Sleep, including rules about bedtime and curfews
6. Friendships
7. Relationships and sex

*From David Gillespie,  
Teen Brain*

### **2019 Lenten Appeal**

**Our Caritas Africa Emergency Appeal for South Sudan will wrap up this week**. All McAuley College students should have by now **invited parents to sponsor them**, in order to raise money as their response to the South Sudan crisis. The notion of generosity is a traditional Lenten observance and also assists in developing a sense of solidarity with people in great need. Each student at McAuley College has a **sponsorship card** for family and friends to sponsor them in completing small jobs in order to raise money for the appeal. The emphasis is on building a sense of solidarity through giving of their time and energy to assist those in need, specifically the South Sudanese people. The amount of sponsorship is up to the family and not the primary focus of the appeal. Please ask to see your child's sponsorship card and assist your son/daughter in this appeal.

**More information on the crisis in South Sudan can be found here:** [Caritas - South Sudan](#)

David Harris, **Assistant Principal – Religious Education**



## LEARN...In action

As we approach the end of term teachers are busy completing Term One Interim Progress Reports. Unlike our semester report, which are based on levels of achievement, these reports are based upon the four aspects of our **Keeping it R.E.A.L** positive behaviours matrix – **Respect, Excellence, Act Responsibly** and **Live with Integrity**. Each student is given a four-point rating for each aspect for each subject. The four ratings are **Consistently (C), Generally (G), Sometimes (S), Rarely (R)**. At this point of the term it's expected that most students would be receiving ratings of **Consistently** or **Generally** for each of the **Keeping it R.E.A.L** aspects.

Learning Areas	Positive Behaviours for Learning				
	Respect	Excellence	Act Responsibly	Live with Integrity	Interventions Required
English	C	C	G	C	-
Mathematics	C	C	C	C	-
Design and Technologies (used Separately)	G	S	S	G	✓
Design and Technologies (integrated)	C	G	G	C	-
Digital Technologies	G	G	G	G	-
Health and Physical Education (used Separately)	G	G	G	C	-
Health and Physical Education (integrated)	C	C	C	C	-
History	C	C	C	C	-
Science	C	C	C	C	-
Design (used)	C	C	C	C	-

Rating	C - Consistently	G - Generally	S - Sometimes	R - Rarely	I - Intervention Required
Positive Behaviours for Learning - Subcategories					
Respect					
Follows teacher direction					
Demonstrates a positive attitude to their learning					
Respects the views of others					
Respects the right of others to learn					
Takes care of personal belongings and respects consequences					
Excellence					
Completes all tasks					
Completes homework					
Subjects their best work and strives to improve					
Contributes in class					
Act Responsibly					
Arrives on time to class					
Is prepared for class with necessary equipment					
Follows classroom rules for the classroom environment					
Keeps their teacher and sign-in to the college					
Shows concern for all who are part of the McAuley College family					
Live with Integrity					
Shows and uses positively					
Demonstrates care for the classroom environment					
Shows respect for others					
Shows concern for all who are part of the McAuley College family					

Our Term One Interim Progress Reports also contain information about attendance as well as a detailed Pastoral Care comment discussing how each student has settled into the new school year. It's important that parents take the time to discuss this report with their son or daughter and develop two or three goals to focus on for Term Two. It's also important to commend and celebrate good results as part of the review of this report.

The Term One Interim Progress Reports will be available on the Parent Portal next Friday afternoon, 5 April 2019. The College will send out communication to inform parents when reports are available.



**Parent Teacher Student Conferences** will be held on **Monday 29 April from 3:30pm to 6:30pm**. You can book these appointments using the app PTO (Parent Teacher online), which is found on the Parent Portal and will be available to parents from Friday 5 April. Parents will be able to make bookings up to 9:00am Friday 26 April. Please contact the College if you are having trouble logging into the Parent Portal prior to the end of the term.



This week our Year 7 and 9 students engaged in the final component of the School Readiness Testing (SRT) for NAPLAN Online, which we started in October last year. On Thursday our students completed a final NAPLAN Online practice test. Each of these phases of testing has been important in our preparations to fully engaged with NAPLAN Online in May this year.

In the last week of the term we will again host the Year 5 students from St Mary's School for a Gala day. Staff are currently putting together the program that will include St Mary's students engaging in a range of activities across the College. I would like to thank our Pastoral Leader Years 7 and 8, Mr Chris Borg and other staff for all of their hard work planning this day.

The rain this week has been a welcome sight week, and the cooler weather that has come as a great relief after the heat of the last couple of months. Let's hope we see more soaking rain as we end the term and enter the Easter Holidays, as well as the warm autumn weather that so often presents at this time of year.

### Michael Darcy Deputy Principal

**Scenic Rim Regional Council** is getting geared up to celebrate Youth Week, hosting the Extreme Ninja Challenge during the Easter school holidays.

In a test of speed and agility, competitors will be able to take on the 28-metre inflatable Ninja Warrior Obstacle Course while Under 12s can also take part in the Youth Week activities with the 14-metre junior ninja course. There will also be high-octane virtual reality fun for all ages. (You do not have to compete to have a go, course will also be open to those just wanting to have a go without being timed for competition).



**PASTORAL NEWS**



On Friday 15 March, McAuley College took a stand against bullying as a part of 'Bullying No Way' day. All students participated in an assembly led by their peers, that discussed bullying and the incredibly negative impacts that it can have.

An incredibly concerning statistic around bullying is that in 85% of bullying incidents, other students are present as onlookers and therefore play a central role in the bullying process. This led us to incorporate a theme into the day being **'Don't look down unless you are helping someone up'**. At McAuley College, we want to be supportive bystanders who, either directly or indirectly, do something to put a stop to bullying. We want to create an environment where we are always lifting people up and where bullying has no place. We want to speak, even if our voice shakes.



As a commitment to saying No Way! to bullying, all students wrote their name on a cut-out hand that will make up a display and be visible within the College. After making this commitment, students received an armband that they wore throughout the day with pride.



It was fantastic to see how positively all McAuley College students engaged with such a large issue. I would like to thank the wonderful students who ran the assembly as their passion was inspiring.

**Ashleigh Beattie**  
**Pastoral Leader, Years 9 & 10**

**Chris Borg**  
**Pastoral Leader, Years 7 & 8**



## Sports News

A great part of this role is the fact I get to hear about all our students great achievements.

Last weekend three students, Emmy Heit, Carly Griffiths and Charlie Love travelled to Townsville to participate at the Little Athletics State titles. Emmy had a great meet taking out the 100m and 200m title and both Charlie and Carly set PB's in their events. A fantastic effort from all those involved.

Beaudesert Swimming club championships were last weekend, **Kadee Blake** won the Girls Encouragement Award Perpetual Shield, for her commitment to training, her enthusiasm and wonderful attitude.



**Sam Blyton** also, did extremely well, Sam broke a club record that has been held since 1991 for 50m Backstroke, won his age group, won the Sportsmanship Award for the year and also received Gold Level Certificate of Achievement for 2018-19.

Other achievers were **Abi Henry, Matilda Watterson and Jake Robinson.**

**Olivia Webb**, representing McAuley College, had her first interschools' equestrian event on the weekend taking out 4th place on her super horse "Kelecyn Tori" in a fantastic class of great riders.

Well done Olivia and thank you for representing us; another inaugural moment for our college.

We have had a successful term of morning training with some great numbers on Wednesday morning at the Pool and Friday morning cross country training. Thank you to Mick Kajewski, Mrs Young, Mrs Field and Mrs Brimson for their assistance on these days. Thank you also to the students and parents for their assistance and participation, we look forward to Friday morning training continuing next term.



Wednesday morning training however will recommence in Term Four. Students looking to be involved next term are welcome and need to see Mr Way.

Our third interhouse cross country carnival is next Friday 5 April. Can any parents who may be able to assist on the day please email Mr Way. Go MacKillop!!!

Yours in Sport,  
James Way, **Acting Sports Leader**

# MacKillop Day

We celebrated MacKillop Day on Monday 25 March. As a student, I'd have to say that it was very much an enjoyable experience; we all had great fun and everyone participated any way they possibly could.

Firstly, MacKillop presented their version of Proud Mary on assembly, which told the story of our patron, St Mary MacKillop. Then, Mr Way spoke about our focus for the morning being sustainability and creating change within the College through the introduction of recycling bins.

After the introduction to MacKillop Day, students were then sent to different classrooms for breakout sessions in Pastoral Care groups. Students listened to Rory, from The Unknown Project, about the importance of fundraising money for the refugees who don't get treated as well. Jodie Wright, from the Scenic Rim Council, held a session on sustainability and landfill, educating the students on the importance of instigating change where possible. And finally, the students participated in a session with Mrs Field and Mr Way about the lifecycle of everyday items and how long they actually take to break down. The purpose of all three sessions was certainly to promote change and encourage students to instigate whatever change they are capable of.

Our Act of Service will be to support The Unknown Project through wrapping novels students have donated to sell on to help raise funds for their initiative.

At the end of our assembly, MacKillop students served out ice cream for the College to enjoy.

I would love to thank Mr Way and Mrs Field for making this day happen because without them, this wouldn't have occurred, and also thank you for all the students who gave their best and participated on the day.

Thank you,

Veronica Wilson (MacKillop 2)

