Dear Parents and Carers,

Here is a reflection from yesterday's pilgrimage. Mary Mackillop reminds us to see the joy in our lives. To see the good in all we meet and all we do.

Enjoy yourselves and be happy above all (1874)

I feel that I should serve Him with a big heart. (1874)

There’s a lovely story told about Mary by the Adelaide Sisters:

A young woman... came to the convent to join up. Mother Mary welcomed her and then asked if, before going through all the formalities, she would like to accompany her to a nearby convent, The young lady readily agreed, and the two of them enjoyed a wonderful afternoon together.

To know how to leave room for surprise, open to whatever life brings us in each moment, is a great gift. It involves being able to see with the eye of the heart. Her ability to see things in this way was a golden thread running through Mary’s life. She helps us to understand that the bigger our heart is, the more we are able to be a home in it.

The pilgrimage is going well. I am currently in the desert in Central Australia. I continue to hold you all in my prayers.

May you have a joyful day.

God bless,

Helen Boyer, Principal

Religious Education

In last Sunday’s gospel, the abundant response of God is the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people with twelve baskets full of leftovers.

In the gospel, as it became late in the day, the disciples wanted Jesus to send the people away to the nearby villages so that they could buy food for themselves. But Jesus is moved with compassion for the people. So it is the compassionate care of others that moves Jesus to act.

The words and actions of Jesus in this miraculous feeding event foreshadow the events of the Last Supper: he took the bread and fish, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples to distribute. This event is a Eucharistic one just as much as the Last Supper. It was a true act of love by Jesus.

St Mary Mackillop is one person who showed compassion for others in her everyday life. She was able to shape Catholic Schools in Australia by caring for and helping others in need, namely children. Following in the footsteps of Mary Mackillop, our children will have the opportunity in Years 4 to 6 to join a group called, “Junior Joey’s”. This group will learn about the life of Mary Mackillop and will be challenged to think of things they can do in our school community to serve others. The children will be inducted during a Liturgy held at school next Friday the 7th of August at 9.15am.
Religious Literacy Assessment Years 4 & 6
Over the coming weeks students in Year Four and Six will complete the Religious Literacy Assessment. All students in the Parramatta Diocese schools will complete this assessment during school time.

What is Religious Literacy?
Religious literacy is the knowledge of, and ability to understand, religious language and concepts.

Students will complete a range of questions such as the one below:

Q:  What are the symbols used in Baptism?  
A:  Water, Oil, Candle and White clothing

Keep your eye out for more questions coming over the next few weeks!

Upcoming Dates:

  Friday 7th of August 9am  –  Whole School Liturgy – St Mary of the Cross
  Thursday 13th of August 9am  –  Grandparents Day Celebration & Book Week Parade
  Friday 4th of September  –  Father’s Day Breakfast and Prayer
  Sunday 13th of September  –  First Eucharist at Holy Trinity Church

We would love to see you all to join us for these upcoming celebrations.

Michelle O’Leary  
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

Winter Family Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all the children who received a Blue Owl Badge for participating in the challenge this year.

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Thank you to those families who are continuing to send in the Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers.

Until Tuesday 8th September you get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards).  
Tell your family and friends that Holy Trinity is collecting the stickers.

Send the Earn & Learn Stickers into school or place the Earn & Learn Stickers onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and put into the Collection Box here at the school. A collection box is also located at the Woolworths store at the corner of Louis & Blaxcell Street Granville.
BOOK WEEK 2015 - BOOKS LIGHT UP OUR WORLD!
The staff and students welcome Grandparents, Parents & Friends to our celebration of Book Week with our Grandparents Liturgy, Book Character Parade, Picnic Morning Tea & Classroom Visits.

When:    Thursday 13th of August, 2015
Where:   HTG Playground

Please refer to the flyer attached to last week’s Update for further information.

Term 3 School Fees
Term 3 school fees have been sent out from the Catholic Education Office and are due to be paid by Monday 17th August.

Families who have arranged to pay by Direct Debit or BPay please disregard this notice.

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Students of the Week
Week ending 24.7.15

Kindergarten
Salma Bah

Year One
Daniella Ronquillo

Year Two
Magie Bui

Year Three
Saide Tannous

Year Four
Elizabeth El-Khoury

Year Five
Elissa Maroun

Year Six
Angelina Batistic

Birthday Celebrations
Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday in July:

Social Skill Focus

Ignoring Distractions

* Count to five
* Say to yourself “I won’t look. I’ll keep working”
* Continue to work
* Say to yourself “Good for me. I did it!”

Canteen Roster

Volunteers must complete Child Protection Training before working with children in schools. Access this online using: http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training

Paulette Zaiter, Canteen Co-ordinator

Friday 17th July - Annie Ghribian, Maram Salloum
Tuesday 21st July - Paulette Zaiter, Lillian Ibrahim
Friday 24th July - Sandra El-Khoury, Almaza Faddoul
Tuesday 28th July - Joyce Irima, Camilla Liutai
Friday 31st July - Rosette Bou-Francis, Sue Bou-Francis
Tuesday 4th August - Dianna Asmar, Joanne Batistic
Friday 7th August - Sophie Depares, Amanda George
Tuesday 11th August - Seini Taliauli, Volunteer Needed
Friday 14th August - Volunteers Needed

Calendar Dates

Friday 31st July - Year 3 Mass
Monday 3rd August - Sacrament of Eucharist - Lesson 1 - 3.15-4.30pm - MacKillop Hall
Friday 7th August - School Liturgy
- Stage 1 Assembly – MacKillop Hall - 2.30pm
Saturday 8th August - St Mary of the Cross
Monday 10th August - Sacrament of Eucharist - Lesson 2 - 3.15-4.30pm - MacKillop Hall
Wednesday 12th August - Reconciliation – Year 6 – 10.30am
- Book Fair Arrives
Thursday 13th August - Celebration of Book Week
- Grandparents Liturgy – 9am
- Book Character Parade – 9.15-10.15am
- Picnic Morning Tea – Recess 11am
- Classroom Visits – 11.30-12.30pm
Friday 14th August - Prayer at Morning Assembly for Feast of Assumption – 9am
- World Youth Day Mufti
- Year 2 Mass
Saturday 15th August - Feast of the Assumption
Monday 17th August - Sacrament of Eucharist - Lesson 3 - 3.15-4.30pm - MacKillop Hall
Wednesday 19th August - Stage 1 Excursion to Rouse Hill
- Reconciliation – Year 5 – 9.00am
- Book Fair Leaves
Friday 21st August - Kinder Assembly – MacKillop Hall - 2.30pm
Monday 24th August - Sacrament of Eucharist - Lesson 4 - 3.15-4.30pm - MacKillop Hall

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers without whom we could not run the canteen.