News from Scott

Are you a Saint?

Yesterday we came together as a school community to remember the life and legacy of Australia’s first saint Mother Mary MacKillop. Fr Jepser led us in the celebration of mass as part of our Catholic faith experience. During his homily, Fr Jepser shared with the children that they could very possibly be saints in the making – the choice is theirs. He used examples of faith figures such as St Dominic Savio and St Therese to demonstrate that saints don’t have to be ‘old people’ but that children also are recognised as saints. It is all in how we live our lives. Are we living our life the way God wants us to? Could it be that you in fact are a saint that is yet to be recognised?

In choosing a Catholic education for your child you have decided to provide them with a faith dimension to their learning. You have placed value on their spiritual formation and allowed the school to work in partnership with you and the parish to support and guide your child’s developing relationship with God. Thank you for allowing us this privilege and congratulations on recognising the importance of faith in realising the full potential of your child.

Term 3 - Mamre Meeting

Last week we provided some excellent learning for parents through our Mamre Team meeting for this term. At this term’s meeting we focused on the following areas.
~ ‘Case Management Approach’ – Helping kids that are a bit stuck. (Scott)
~ ‘Extending Mathematical Understanding’ - a new approach to mathematics at Trinity (Matt).
~ Fundraising – Movie Night, Zone Athletics Carnival and Father’s Day.

The feedback from both the morning group and the evening group was that the learning, particularly about how mathematics is taught in rooms, was very valuable and supportive. This followed a similar positive response about our two reading sessions offered earlier this year. My only regret is that we weren’t able to involve more parents in these learning opportunities. If you are able to find the time, I would strongly recommend attending these meetings to assist you in understanding what our teachers are achieving with your child.

(Please find going home today a copy of the minutes from the meeting.)

Scott

Movie Night

Thank you for your support of our annual Trinity Movie Night. In ‘near Antarctic’ weather conditions we came together as families and shared a meal and enjoyed the ‘Lego Movie’. It is always a good night for the kids and parents get to mix and meet. As a result all money raised will go towards supporting our purchase of mathematics equipment for the classrooms.

Take care – “In giving we receive”.

Scott
Sacred Space - Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

As a school we celebrated the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop yesterday with a mass led by Year Three and Father Jepser. St Mary of the Cross is the Patron Saint of the Diocese of Parramatta.

Mary… listened to God’s call and she lived her life by the power of the Cross. Each of our Learning Groups has a special ‘holding’ cross that is passed around during class prayer. This is a similar wooden cross to the type Mary MacKillop carried in her pocket at all times. Mary MacKillop had a special charism.

A charism is a gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church, communicated through a particular person who gathers disciples around him or her and with whom he or she translates a bold vision into action. Charism is a living passion for whatever dimension of the life of Christ is needed - faith, obedience, compassion, thoughtfulness, hope, contentment, determination... It is the burning desire in the heart of the founder/foundress that was alive at one period of history, living on in us, in another day and age. It is ever evolving… it is where the reign of God is needed most. It develops from age to age. (Catholic Dictionary)

We believe the charism of Mary MacKillop lives on in our Australian Church today. We are this church and know and believe that God calls us to grow in faith and deepen our relationship with him through our discipleship. What are you called to do as a disciple? What is your charism? May the charism of Mary MacKillop evolve in and through us.

The words of the final song we sang in yesterday’s mass give us an insight into the woman she was.

Mary of the Cross

Composed by Michael Mangan

Chorus:
Born beneath the Southern Cross
Living under skies of blue
From the ocean spray to the dry, red desert sand
Living her life by the power of the cross
Wearing a dress of brown,
Mary shared God’s love throughout our land.

1.
Mary knew God’s plan for her
She listened to God’s call.
She heard God’s voice in the cry of the poor:
Peace and justice for all!
Mary, she listened to God’s call.
Mary, peace and justice for all. She was … Chorus

2.
When times were tough she trusted God,
She knew there’d be a way.
Courage was the badge she wore,
Her heart burned strong with faith.
Mary, she knew there’d be a way.
Mary, her heart burned strong with faith. She was … Chorus

3.
From busy city streets to outback towns
Traveling far and wide,
Building dreams and bringing God’s love,
Her sisters by her side.
Mary, traveling far and wide,
Mary, her sisters by her side. She was … Chorus
News from Matt

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It was great to catch up with parents at the Mamre Team meetings last week and have the opportunity to share with the community how children are learning in Mathematics at Trinity. We played some numeracy warm-up games, participated in a ‘Rich Open-ended’ learning task and demonstrated the ‘Reflection Time’. All of which are components of the Quality Numeracy Block that is taught for an hour everyday. Hopefully more parents will be available to attend Numeracy workshops next time they are offered.

Here is an example of a Rich Open-ended task that children may work on throughout a week.

“You are an architect who has been asked to construct a building using 12 cubes. How many designs can you make?”

- Make and draw them
- Write number sentences to describe your buildings.
- Teachers Give restrictions or change parameters to provoke thinking of alternate strategies and challenge harder thinking. For example
  - The building must have 4 cubes on the base.
  - How many 1 storey designs can you make? 2 storeys etc
  - How much will it cost to paint the outside if one face of each cube costs $5 to paint? (Change cost, include decimals)
  - What is the cheapest or most expensive building to paint?
  - Graph the results and write questions for others to interpret the data.

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<tr>
<th>Literacy Hint</th>
<th>Numeracy Hint</th>
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<td>Do your children like to read the same book over and over? Great! Encourage them. Do they use more expression each time they read? Wonderful. Children need to learn to read fluently. This is difficult the first time they read a book but becomes easier the more times they read the same story. Teachers often say to children, “Read like you’re talking” One way for a child to do this is by becoming more familiar with a book, which is done by re-reading. So, when your child wants to read the same book again and again, smile and give praise. Your little reader is become more fluent.</td>
<td>Encourage your child to count often. Count forwards and backwards and begin at various numbers, not always zero. Also, count by 2’s, 5’s or 10’s starting at different numbers. For example, Count by 5’s starting at 3. i.e. 3, 8, 13, 18, 23 etc.</td>
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School Fees

All School Fees have been posted to your home and are due for payment by 19th August unless you have a payment plan.

If you have not received the statements by now please contact Michelle in the office.

9834 3212.

YEAR 3 + 4 Families CAPTIVATE CONCERT TICKET WEBSITE INFORMATION

Tickets for the a3/ASPA Choral performances will be on sale on Monday 4th August through Try Booking - www.trybooking.com/EXZQ

Prices are as follows:
- Adult - $15
- Concession - $10 (School/University Students, Seniors, Pensioners, Concession Card Holders)
- Family Ticket (Good for 4) - $40 (2 Adults and 2 Concession)
Lowes Sale

14th August 2014

If you are a rewards card holder you can receive 20% off all School Wear.
If you are not a card holder you can join on the day and still get the discount!

2nd Hand Uniform Sale

Here at School on

Wednesday 13th August

at 2.45pm.

A big Thankyou to Wendy for running our second hand stall.

Zone Carnival

A huge "THANKS" in advance to the great response of parents and carers who have offered to assist on the BBQ or as a carnival helper.

If you are assisting with the carnival please report to the sign on table on the track at 8:10am. If you are arriving later to assist please come down to relieve our Trinity helpers.

For our competitors, "GOOD LUCK" and enjoy your day. Please report to Leah on arrival.

Jo

LARC NEWS

Author Tristan Bancks' Visit Monday 4th August

We all enjoyed Tristan's visit to Trinity. He spoke about his books and writing in general and about being an ambassador for "Room to Read."

He shared a few rules about his work

- A good story is one quarter "Orientation", half "Complication" and one quarter "Resolution".
- Use a character that wants something, another character that has opposite wants and stakes – what they each have to lose.
- The value of music while writing a story to create a mood. He uses Spotify and storyscrapbook.com. The children were amazed with the variety of attributes for a crazy cat using different music.
- The importance of detail in the story eg a foot that has been sweaty all day in a school shoe
- Use information from your own life and embellish and exaggerate.
- "Two Wolves" took more than 5 years to write because it is quite different.
- He read part of a story and then asked children to use some of the above to suggest complications. It was fun.

Become a Published Author

He also encouraged children aged 10-14 to submit under 1000 words a story by August 22nd for possible inclusion in his new "My Life.." book. It needs to be funny and weird. More details on his website at tristanbancks.com under "Books"

Trinity Winter Holiday Reading Certificates

Assembly Dates for Presentation

Parents are welcome
Thursday 14th August- Year 2 and Year 3 &
Thursday 21st - K and Year 1

Book Week Parade Wednesday 27th August

11.30 for 11.45 start in the Hall

All welcome

Please see separate note. Children may wear costume to school if they can be comfortable all day in it. Help them change at Recess if needed. Please bring additional warm clothing to wear during the parade if that will make them comfortable.

Book Swap- Year 5 Mission Activity

See separate note that has been sent home. Bring a gold coin in an envelope with child's name and one of the child's books in order to participate in the Swap. $1 will provide a book for a child in another country that may not even have one book! Thank you your support for our first Book Swap.