

HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL HEATHCOTE

Registration No. 1252

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Next Monday, August 8 is the feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross Mac Killop. Mary MacKillop is Australia's first saint. She was canonised on 17 Oct, 2010. Mary's life and her writings give us a glimpse of her relationship with her God lived out in her commitment to the poor and needy. We thank God for the gift of Mary MacKillop.

St Mary of the Cross Prayer

Most loving God, we thank you for the example of St Mary of the Cross, who in her living of the gospel, witnesses to the human dignity of each person. She faced life's challenges with faith and courage.

We pray through her intercession for our needs.

We give thanks, gracious God,

that St Mary of the Cross is for the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst, a heavenly patroness and advocate.

Through her prayers, increase our knowledge and love of you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

St Mary of the Cross, Pray for us.

- Liz Tobin REC

Dear Parents,

Cold mornings and glorious days. August is here.

Several years ago, I spent the month of August in the Northern Territory. The weather was 35 degrees and dry every day. The same every day. I recall thinking that our Victorian weather is never that predictable which adds a bit of spice into every day. But yes it is great to see that sun.

One of the things that has always fascinated me is the rivers and waterways of Australia. The Murray Darling Basin and all tributaries of it, how they flow, where they originate and where their precious currents travel to has always been of interest to me. Camping by a river or boating on the river are most enjoyable and invigorating activities for myself and my family.

On my travels to and from work each day and often on the weekend I am delighted to see the Mt Ida Creek at Derrinal flowing so well. I have been watching as it meanders and snakes into the floor of Lake Eppalock on its original path and then watching the lake coming towards us as it begins to fill. The Upper Coliban and Campaspe Rivers are both flowing strongly into the lake from the South.

Such activity is a benefit to many socially as we use the lake, economically for our community as it attracts visitors and environmentally as we build our water reserves for another Summer.

One of the joys of travelling to Heathcote to work each day.

**SAFETY FOR ALL (repeat)**

New legislation around Child Safe Standards is being introduced on August 1st. This will impact on how things have been carried out in schools and especially at Holy Rosary Heathcote.

I am very appreciative of those that have come to see me in regards to what they feel can be improved around the school to ensure it is a safer place. Input from the school community has driven many of the changes around the school especially the redesign of the car park and other OHS refinements.

It is important to note that:

- Our car park is designed to ensure children are safe in our school as they are being dropped off and picked up. The Board is looking into feedback from the community that will ensure it suits our school numbers. More carparks will be installed once the land dries out more.
- Our school has been de-cluttered and new areas created to ensure that it is a safe place to be and work.
- A full OHS review has been conducted and all recommendations are being implemented this term.
- Working with Children Checks are being sought from all volunteers in our school to ensure our children are safe.

- All staff have a Level 2 First Aid certificate and have attended Catholic Education Child Safe training days.
- All procedures and practices of staff in regards to the wellbeing of students has been reviewed and updated.
- Working with Children Checks are being requested from all parents in our school. If you have one can you please send a photocopy of it to school for our files. There is a notice below outlining this request.

Inquiry Mindset

Thursday this week Miss Mitchell, Mrs Tobin and myself attended the 5th day of the Inquiry mindset Professional Learning program. On the day, Miss Mitchell gave a presentation on how our staff are working on assessment of students for Reading Comprehension and how this is benefiting our students across the school.

One of the key discussions was how students need to read often if they are to consolidate their comprehension skills. The teachers plan tremendous lessons and if our children can be encouraged to read at home, we will have a greater success.

In my visits to classrooms this week I was impressed with the writing students were producing. Plenty of 'bling' in Miss Mitchell and Mrs O'Kanes class and I noted the great improvement in the students from the beginning of the year. Great news.

Safe school.

This week there have been several projects carried out around our school to ensure a safer school. The regrowth tree in the front of the school was identified as rotting in the stump and has been removed, the soft fall in the playground area has been dug over and topped up and concrete has been poured at the access points to the walkway to eliminate slip hazards from the gravel.

Thank you to Dean Bibby and Allen Harris for assistance on Wednesday with several tasks around the school.

Ensuring our students are safe is a key focus of all staff at Holy Rosary and apart from these larger projects we have also worked on children ensuring they are safe by the way they play and work together. I encourage all families to talk to their children about how the school expectations are designed to ensure everyone at Holy Rosary is safe and successful.

Tree Day

Holy Rosary has registered for School Tree Day. Our planting day is going to be later in the term due to the wet conditions we currently have. Once it dries out, we will engage parents to contribute to where we can best plant our native plants.

Transition Flying Start Program

Our second Transition Day for new Foundation class for 2017 was held on Monday this week. Mrs Tobin planned several fantastic activities for the students and despite several being unwell, the students had a great day in the library.

If you are aware of any parents who are undecided about where to send their child next year, please get them to contact the school.

School Board

Our school board meets several times each term. If you wish for any items to be added to the agenda, please write to the Board Chair and send into the office.

First Friday Mass

Our first Friday Mass for August will be at 11.30am in the church today. All classes will attend and parents are most welcome.

Insight SRC

Thank you to all parents who returned the Insight SRC School Improvement Surveys. Data from the surveys will assist us to improve our school and learning outcomes for students.

Pupil Free Day.

Monday 22nd August will be a pupil free day at Holy Rosary as teachers will be working on Reading Comprehension strategies based on the work of renowned educationalist Deb Sukarna. Many staff have attended workshops with Deb over the year and this day will be a chance to pull all of these new ideas together to inform our teaching and learning. All initiatives at Holy Rosary are informed by research and the Deb Sukarna work is a strong influence on our planning and supports our Inquiry Mindset work with Helen Timperley (NZ)

Lunch Time Clubs

One of the exciting new initiatives for students at school has been the Play and Lunch time clubs activities. Every day the students are offered the opportunity to come into the library to participate in a clubs activity. The students have consistently been lining up at the half way mark of each recess and lunch. Clubs offers the children an alternative to being on the yard for a whole 40 minutes and allows them to enjoy the recess and lunch period more.

Thanks to our teaching staff for taking on the extra duty each day and especially to our teaching assistants who design the craft activities and join the students each day.

I have attached several photos of the students enjoying the craft session.

Monday – Construction/ Lego

Tuesday – Reading and drawing

Wednesday – Craft

Thursday – Board games

Friday – Nature Videos

Yours Sincerely



Paul Dullard

In **Grade 3/4MO** this week we have been writing creative stories with some "**bling**". We learnt that when we use adjectives in our writing, it makes our stories more interesting. Here is the start of the story that Hollie wrote:

Long long ago there was a kind tiger and a sweet deer and a talented pony. It was a hot day so they decided to go to the sparkling beach. They met up with a stripy zebra. She had the most powerful stick that was so evil, it made everyone do stuff for her.

By Hollie Temby

Long ago there lived two very best friends their names are Bob the bouncy tiger and Jeff the thoughtful deer. Bob and Jeff were peacefully sailing out on the salty beach in their green row boat. When the blue sky turned dark black they knew there was a terrible strong storm on the way but there was an extremely bad problem they were in the middle of nowhere so they decided to quickly hide under the seats. The terrible strong storm hit, it was strong that Bob and Jeff ended up on a 300 feet long deserted island. Luckily someone else had left a huge stack of fresh food so Bob and Jeff had plenty of food and water. Bob and Jeff found heaps of old dirty drifted wood on the sand so Bob and Jeff collected all the old dirty drifted wood. They decided to build a double storied house, it took Bob and Jeff a whole long week to build the house then just as they ran out of old dirty drift wood. Bob found a little hole in the house so Bob and Jeff had to wait until the next storm. While Bob and Jeff were waiting for the next storm they built a rock pool. It took a while to build because they built it in the sparkling water because Bob and Jeff have limited things unless they swim with terrifying sharks to find things. Once Bob and Jeff had finished they built a fool island of fun things. The End

By Telani Bibby

Over the last few weeks, **grade 3/4MH and 3/4MO** have been cooking some healthy recipes in relation to our Inquiry focus this term, '**How Can We Be Healthy?**'

We have been using ingredients from the different food groups as we have learnt that we need to eat a balanced diet to be healthy.

The recipes we have made include: **fruit kebabs, smoothies and corn and ham muffins.**

We have loved cooking in class and trying new things!



HELP NEEDED TO CONTACT BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY....

The library has recently purchased some new books that the students have been keen to read. The books have been catalogued, but we need some very kind helpers to contact the books to help protect them. If you are able to help in anyway, please see me at school on Tuesdays.

Many thanks, Prue Harris

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2016

Monday 22nd AUGUST - PUPIL FREE DAY

Wednesday 24th August - Blurbs Performing

BOOK WEEK 20TH -26TH AUGUST

Book Week this year is the 20-26th August. The theme is "**Australia! Story Country**".

On Wednesday 24th of August the Blurbs will be performing at our school at 2pm. This will also be our dress up day. We will have a parade first thing in the morning and then do some rotation activities where each classroom teacher chooses a book that has been nominated, and does an activity on it.

Min from the Blurbs would like the kids to start learning the music for the concert.

The link for the songs is:

<http://theblurbsbendigo.wix.com/theblurbs#!media/c1e60>

There are also lyrics on the website.

For now, please start learning the songs and get your costume ready!!

We're open 9-5pm Monday to Friday and 9-12pm Saturdays.

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Hand Foot Mouth

This is to inform you that we have had a re-ported case of Hand Foot & Mouth Disease at our school.

Hand foot and mouth disease (HFMD) is a viral infection. It is not linked to the foot and mouth disease that affect animals. HFMD is mainly seen in children under the age of 10 or in young adults. It is easily spread from one person to another. Most people have had HFMD by the time they are adults.

Signs and symptoms

Symptoms usually start three to seven days after catching the infection and can last from seven to 10 days. Admission to hospital is rarely needed. The common signs and symptoms include:

- high temperature (fever)
- sore throat
- small blisters on the inside of the mouth, the sides of the tongue, palms of the hands, fingers, soles of the feet and nappy area (the blisters should not be itchy like chickenpox blisters)
- poor appetite (drinking and eating can be painful because of the mouth blisters)
- Tiredness.

Minimum exclusion times are recommended under the Public Health Act 2005.

Some medical conditions require exclusion from school or childcare to prevent the spread of infectious diseases among other children and staff.

Following the link below will take you to the “Time Out” poster that provides information on diseases and the recommended minimum exclusion periods for infectious diseases.

[hKps://www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/documents/cdb/Bmeout_poster.pdf](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/documents/cdb/Bmeout_poster.pdf)

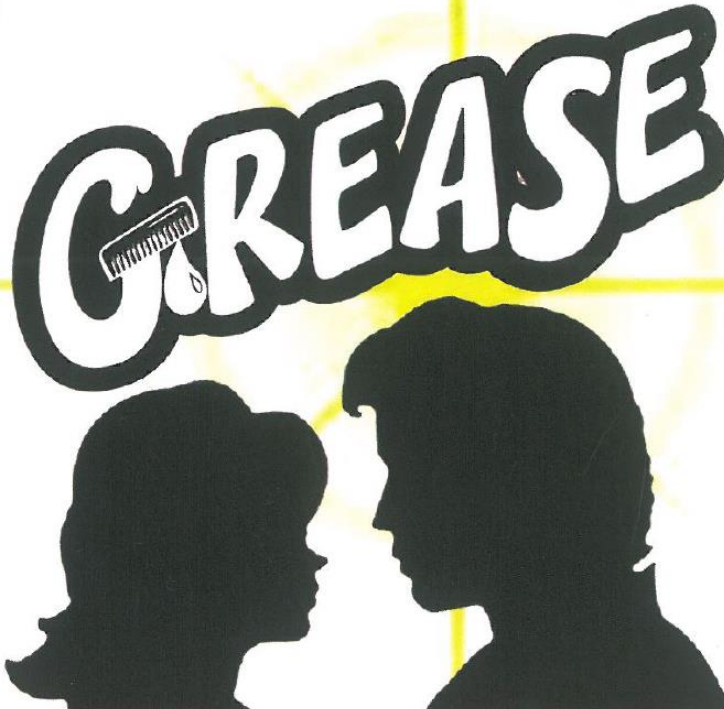
PARENTS PAGE

Failing & mindsets

Learning from failure is fundamental to student achievement and motivation at school. Failure is a part of life that everybody experiences. It is how you deal with failure that determines how much you grow and learn through your experiences. In a school, setting it is common for students to feel like they are competing against each other. This can make failure very hard for some students as they may compare themselves to a friend or another student who has done better than them and feel as though they will never be able to succeed at the same level. It is therefore important that teachers and parents promote failure as a positive and necessary step to improving. When a student does not achieve a result they were hoping for, let them know that it's not because they can't do it, it's just that they can't do it *yet*. This will encourage them to adopt a growth mindset and see failure as an opportunity to do better next time and not a final determination of how good/bad they are at something.

Taken from Reach Out website 2016

CATHOLIC COLLEGE BENDIGO



Adults \$30 Student/Concession \$23 Family of 4 \$80 Family of 5 \$90

August
Thursday 18th, 7.30pm Friday 19th, 7.30pm Saturday 20th, 6.30pm

ULUMBARRA THEATRE
Gaul Road

Tickets available from the CAPITAL THEATRE BOX OFFICE on 5434 5100



CECV Commitment Statement to Child Safety

A safe and nurturing culture for all children and young people in Catholic schools

The Statement is intended to provide the central focus for child safety¹ across Catholic education in Victoria, built around a unified understanding of the moral imperative and overarching commitments that underpin our drive for improvement and cultural change.

The Catholic school sets out to be a school for the human person and of human persons. The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching; that is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic school.

(Congregation for Catholic education 1997, par. 9)

The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of Catholic education. This commitment is drawn from and inherent to the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel.

The CECV has a universal expectation for the protection of children. It is resolutely committed to ensuring that all those engaged in Catholic education in Victoria promote the inherent dignity of children and young people and their fundamental right to be respected and nurtured in a safe school environment. This is particularly so for the most vulnerable children, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

Catholic schools have a moral, legal and mission-driven responsibility to create nurturing school environments where children and young people are respected, their voices are heard and where they are safe and feel safe. When allegations of abuse concerning children and young people are raised, Catholic schools will take prompt action to have these appropriately referred and investigated. While the context and reality at each Catholic school will differ, the fundamental issues of understanding effective practices in child safety and identifying and responding to child harm remain the same. All schools must strive for continual improvement that is responsive to emerging thinking, evidence and practice, so as to eliminate the possibility of abuse occurring in the first place.

Creating child-safe school environments is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by schools, families and their communities. It is marked by collaboration, vigilance and proactive approaches across policies, procedures, curriculum and practices.

Every person involved in Catholic education has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

¹As defined by the Victorian Government Special Gazette No. 2 (2016), 'children and young people' in this document refers to those children and young people enrolled as students in Catholic schools in Victoria.



The CECV commits to providing **a safe and nurturing culture** for all children and young people in Victorian Catholic schools through:

1 Upholding the primacy of the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

At all times, the ongoing safety and wellbeing of all children and young people will be the primary focus of care and decision-making, with particular attention paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

To create and maintain a safe and nurturing culture, schools will actively and continually develop and review all policies, processes and practices, informed by emerging thinking and evidence.

2 Empowering families, children, young people and staff to have a voice and raise concerns.

Schools, in partnership with families, will ensure children and young people, are engaged and active participants in decision-making processes, particularly those that have an impact on their safety.

This means that the views of staff, children, young people and families are taken seriously and their concerns are addressed in a just and timely manner. Children and young people are also provided with the necessary skills and knowledge to understand and maintain their personal safety and wellbeing.

3 Implementing rigorous risk-management and employment practices.

Schools will systematically and continually identify and assess risks to child safety and will eliminate (where possible) or reduce all potential sources of harm. Effective risk management will be embedded in school life through effective, transparent and well-understood policies, procedures and practices.

Schools will employ highly competent and professional staff who are formed and challenged to maintain the safety of all students. The high-quality of staff appointments will be upheld through rigorous employment and staff review processes and practices.

Catholic education will stay abreast of current legislation and will meet their legislative duties to protect the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in their care, including the Victorian Child Safe Standards (Victorian Government 2016), mandatory reporting, grooming, failure to disclose and failure to protect requirements.

References

Congregation for Catholic education 1997, *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*, Vatican, Vatican City, accessed 24 February 2016 www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccatheduc/documents/rc_con_ccatheduc_doc_27041998_school2000_en.html.

State of Victoria, Department of Education and Training 2016, *Child Safe Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools Ministerial Order No. 870*, Education & Training Reform Act 2006, Gazette No. S2, accessed 16 May 2016 www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2016/GG2016S002.pdf.