Dear Parents and Friends

Monday marked the feast day of a very important Saint, Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Mary MacKillop was born in 1842 in (Fitzroy) Melbourne (Australia). On 8 August 1909 she died, having suffered a disabling stroke in 1902. Inspired by a meeting with Fr. Julian Tenison-Woods, Mary MacKillop at the age of 25 took her vows and the religious name, “Mary of the Cross”. In doing so, she founded the congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph. Soon after taking her religious vows, Mary MacKillop began schools. Within 5 years of taking her vows and founding the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Mary had established over 30 schools, in South Australia and over 100 women had joined the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Mary MacKillop was very conscious of the plight of the poor and needy. She worked with families that lived in isolated areas of Australia. As a result, Mary MacKillop pioneered a new form of religious life in Australia and commenced a “system” of “Josephite” schools that would provide education, especially for the children of the poor. In 1873, Pope Pius IX gave Papal approval for the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Even today, many Australians can say that they too have felt the impact of the enormous work started by St. Mary of the Cross (MacKillop), having been educated or cared for, by the Sisters of Saint Joseph. She was noted for her trust in the providence of God and miracles of healing have been attributed to her. She was declared a Saint by Pope Benedict XVI on the 17th October 2010. The Roman Missal has the following prayer for the Feast of St. Mary of the Cross (MacKillop).

O God, source of all goodness, who have shown us in Saint Mary a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross, teach us, we pray, by her example to live the gospel in changing times and to respect and defend the human dignity of all in our land. Amen

Wellington Eisteddfod
Our School Choir and Primary Recorder Group are very busily practising for next week’s Wellington Eisteddfod. Many thanks to all who are able to assist with transport next Monday and Wednesday. Below is the list of transport arrangements for both days. Students will require packed lunches for both days. Full Winter Uniform will be required for both days. UPA Performance St Columba’s will visit the Yeoval UPA Facility on Friday morning to perform our upcoming eisteddfod items. Sara Kiel, Amelia Vaughan, Simon Brown & Patrick Vaughan will also perform their eisteddfod items for the residents.

Student of the Week

Fergus Kerin

For consistently completing work to a high standard

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Certificates this week:

Primary – Sara Kiel, Tyrone Antaw, Patrick Vaughan
Infants – Maddie Keady, Austin Pastor
Molong Players
Many thanks to all who have returned notes regarding assisting on Friday 19th August for the P&F’s catering at Molong Players. Attached to the newsletter is a roster of helpers. This is always a great chance for parents to socialise and catch up in our busy lives.

Last Monday all students were introduced to our new robotic resources which will assist us in delivering quality STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Education to our students. All students are thoroughly enjoying the challenge of programming and coding the robots to perform specific tasks. The students will share their skills with our school community with a “Robotics” afternoon in the near future. A very exciting time indeed!

Calendar Dates
- Monday 15th August - Wellington Eisteddfod Choir Section (K-6)
- Monday 15th August P & F Meeting 6pm
- Wednesday 17th August Wellington Eisteddfod (3-6)
- Friday 19th August – Molong Players
- Monday 22nd – Thursday 25th AUGUST – Yr 5/6 CANBERRA EXCURSION
- Sunday 28th – First Holy Communion 10am Mass