This Friday celebrates the feast day of Australia’s first saint, Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Together with the Reverend Julian Tenison Woods she founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, a congregation of religious sisters which established a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australasia, with an emphasis on education for the rural poor. The Sisters of St Joseph were at St Columba’s school from 1943 until 1975.

On 17 July 2008, Pope Benedict XVI prayed at her tomb during his visit to Sydney for World Youth Day. On 19 December 2009, Pope Benedict approved the Catholic Church’s recognition of a second miracle attributed to her intercession. She was canonised on 17 October 2010 during a public ceremony in St Peter’s Square at the Vatican.

Loving God, friend of children and the poor, be with us as we try each day to be messengers of your good news. Through the prayers and example of Jesus and Mary MacKillop, help us to make a difference in our world by being aware of those who are most in need of care and support. May we be generous in sharing what we have and being a friend to those who are alone. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

“We must teach more by example than by word.” (Mary MacKillop 1867)

Year 6 Religious Education Test

In Term 2 our Year 6 students participated in the Religious Education Test for students in Diocesan Catholic Schools. Special congratulations to Phoebe Englert, Laura Kiel and Teji Pastor who have received High Distinctions. Their scores were in the top 5% of Year 6 participants in the Diocese of Bathurst. A tremendous achievement indeed!
Student of the Week

Althea Pastor

For her increased confidence in her own ability.

Merit Certificates

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards this week.

Primary – Laura Kiel, Phoebe Englert, Jack Job, Amelia Vaughan

Infants – Fergus Kerin, Tyler Simister

School Dental Screening

The NSW Western Health Services Dental Clinic will be conducting free dental checks for students on Wednesday 20th August (Week 6). Could you please complete the attached note regarding the checks and return it to school by next week. Please remember to tick no and return the sheet even if you do not want your child’s teeth checked.

Jeans 4 Genes

Many thanks to all for supporting Jeans 4 Genes Day last Friday. Over $100 was raised for this very worthwhile cause.

Wellington Eisteddfod

Many thanks to all for returning notes regarding the Wellington Eisteddfod next week. A list of travel arrangements will be sent home when it is finalised. You are reminded that all students will attend the Choir Section on Tuesday and only the Primary students will attend the Instrumental Section on Thursday.

Principal’s Assessment

Attached to today’s newsletter is a letter from Ms Janine Kearney regarding my Principal’s Assessment which is currently being conducted. Your support and cooperation in this process is most appreciated.

Molong Players

Mrs Englert is currently preparing the roster of helpers for Molong Players which the P&F will be catering for next Friday 15th August. A note regarding the evening will be sent home by the end of this week.

Yeoval Eagles Grand Final Canteen

With the Yeoval Eagles having a very successful win last Saturday our Year 5/6 Parents will be running the canteen at the Grand Final which will be played on Saturday 16th August. Mrs Englert will be sending home a note to the Year 5/6 Parents regarding help on the day.

Canberra Excursion Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)

Students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 / students under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Little Athletics Wellington

Registration days: 11th, 18th and 25th of August (4:00 – 5.30pm at Rygate Park)
Season starts on Monday 1st September at 5:30 – 7:30pm

Kind regards

Glen Brown - Principal

Week 3 Answer – Piano

I grow when I eat, but die when I drink?