Dear Families,

Today, 8th August, we celebrate the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Our school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph 100 year ago- Mary MacKillop was the founder of this inspirational group of women who continue her work both in our country and in neighbouring countries today. The Sisters staffed our school until the early 1970s. Mary MacKillop is an example of faith put into action and words as she followed her dream to ensure country children in small rural communities were able to receive a good education in their Catholic faith and academic skills for their future. She always went out of her way to minister to the poor, the lonely, the sick and those who were outcasts. As a school community we try to carry on the charism of Saint Mary MacKillop through providing an education based on Catholic teaching, welcoming all who come to us, assisting those in need, providing programs for those with particular needs, and sharing in prayer, celebrations and the Sacraments.

Mary MacKillop's Story
1842 - 1909

Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne in 1842. Her father had spent the family fortune, so the MacKillops were poor. Mary left home to work when she was fourteen and gave all the money she earned to her family. In 1861 she went to work in Penola, a small town in South Australia. Here Mary met Father Julian Woods. Mary felt a religious calling, but hadn't been able to find an order that suited her. Consequently, in 1866, she and Father Woods started their own: 'The Sisters of St. Joseph'. The Order was dedicated to the education of poor children. The order spread to Adelaide and other parts of South Australia, and membership grew rapidly. Mary was a woman who stood up for what she believed which brought her into conflict with religious leaders. She took a vow of poverty, which meant she had to beg for money. Catholic church leaders didn't like begging, but Mary refused to change her ways. The tension escalated into conflict over educational matters and as a result Mary was excommunicated by Bishop Shiel for insubordination in 1871. The excommunication placed on her was lifted six months later. In 1883, Mary came into conflict with the Roman Catholic Church establishment by insisting on an equalitarian rather than hierarchical organisation. Bishop Reynolds told her to leave his diocese and Mary transferred the headquarters of the Josephites to Sydney and died in Sydney on 8 August, 1909. Mary never became bitter against the Church leaders that had opposed her. This forgiving attitude was complemented by the outstanding work of the congregation. Protestants, as well as Catholics, loudly praised her charity to the poor, her personal poverty, and for not imposing her personal views on to others.

In 1973, Mother Mary became the first Australian to be formally proposed to Rome as a candidate for canonization and she was beatified by Pope John Paul II at St Francis’ Church on 27th November, 1994. In October 2010 St Mary of the Cross MacKillop became Australia’s first saint.

In remembering our first Australian Saint: Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop on her Feast Day it might be fitting to share some of her wonderful wise sayings with the family. Some great discussions may follow:

Remember we are but travellers here." (1866)

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

“Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God.” (1891)

“Courage, courage, trust in God who helps you in all things.”

“God gives me strength for what is necessary.”

“Never see a need without doing something about it.”

In this our Centenary year we truly celebrate and are thankful to St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph.

Thanks

Jeanette
School Mass
The next school Mass will be a whole school Mass celebrating the Assumption of the Blessed Mary. This will be celebrated on Friday, 15th August at 10.15 am. The Mass celebrates Mary’s unique destiny with her role as Mother of God, it also sees her Assumption as a sign and promise for the pilgrim people of God.

Sacramental Celebration Gifts
The St Vincent de Paul shop at Evans Head has suitable gifts and cards for the children who are receiving their Confirmation this year. It is a lovely idea to mark the celebration with an appropriate gift, and the shop has a variety of inexpensive mementos most suitable for these special celebrations.

Proclaim Lismore Parents 2014
In the latest edition of the Proclaim Lismore Parents e-bulletin, we explore the Be-Happy-Attitudes and what it means to be happy through the eyes of Samuel Foggingsworth III - an animated story specifically designed for Proclaim Parents.

To read the full e-bulletin click here.

You can now register your interest in attending the Proclaim Parent Gatherings 2014 which will be held over six separate days across the Diocese of Lismore in October (numbers are limited).

Proclaim Lismore 2014 is an unprecedented opportunity to join with us as partners in co-designing an even stronger and more effective Catholic schooling for each child.

Please visit the Proclaim Lismore website to find out more: www.proclaimlismore.com.au or subscribe to our monthly e-bulletins by emailing proclaim@lism.catholic.edu.au.

A Confirmation Prayer
May you be strong in courage and confidence.
May you be wise in choices and decisions.
May you be caring of relationships.
May you be compassionate to those in need.
May your integrity be a gift to the world
And may the Spirit of God be with you always.

Making Jesus Real Awards
Jason Bell - For being brave and taking up a challenge.

The Beginning Experience:
A personal encounter weekend for those who are grieving the loss of a spouse/partner through separation, divorce or death will be held from 17th-19th October, 2014 at “Arabella Garden Inn Motel” in Wollongbar. It offers participants the opportunity to turn the pain of loss into growth. Bookings are essential and applications close on 3rd October 2014.

For further details call Judy on 6624 1549, Jan on 6624 5175 or 0437 112031, or visit our website: www.belismore.org.au for more information.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Just a reminder that our next staff Development Day (PUPIL FREE DAY) is on Monday, 11th August 2014 (Week 5). We will be combining with the staff at St Joseph's Coraki and St Joseph's Alstonville for an Australian Curriculum Day on Maths.

If you have difficulty with arrangements for the care of your child/children on these days please let us know as soon as possible.

We thank you for supporting us in our Professional Development opportunities.

ST JOSEPH'S BUSH DANCE

A wonderful night was had by all, last Saturday night at our annual Bush Dance. It was fantastic to see so many families support the night and enjoy each other's company. A big thank you to the Centenary Committee for their continued efforts and hard work in organising and running the evening. Thanks to the parents who assisted before and on the night and to those who sent in donation for the Tombola store. It truly was a community effort. Many thanks!

SCHOOL FEES

Many thanks to those families who are paying by direct deposit into the school's bank account.

The third (final for the year) fees statements will be sent home next week. These fees are payable by the end of Week 6 of this term, that is Friday, 22nd August 2014.

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL WOODBURN

100 YEARS OF EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

To be celebrated on 24th, 25th & 26th October 2014

Come along for a great weekend!

We'd like to invite all students, ex-students, teachers, parents, parishioners and the community to join in our 100 years celebration.

NEXT MEETING—Tuesday, 19th August 2014 at 2 pm
**NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS**

A great time was had by all!!!
A beautiful start to the day’s activities was held in Springlike conditions last Friday in the school grounds—“sacred space”. Mrs Roxburgh and students representing Bundjalung, Wiradjuri and Taungurong people shared prayers, readings and artworks. Rory Close from Ballina came and spent time with each Stage group, presenting Dreamtime tales, dance and music in the Library. He had a natural rapport with all Stage levels, with students participating well. The dancing seemed to be the big hit of the day with several Brolgas and Emus alighting buses for the trip home at day’s end.
The afternoon was finished off with Indigenous games. Again the participation was 100% and the enjoyment factor high. Emphasis in these games is inclusivity and participation rather than winning and competition.
Thank you to all students and staff who assisted in the flow of the day.

Sharon Roxburgh

**SPORTS NEWS from John Cocciola**

**Lismore Diocesan Athletics Carnival**
The Lismore Diocesan Athletics Carnival was held today at Port Macquarie. St Joseph’s had five students (Billy Bradford, Eliza Blunn, Declan Wilde, Nella Bradford and Tara Blunn) in the Richmond Zone squad that competed against students from Tweed, Clarence and Hastings’s Catholic Primary Schools. Congratulations to these students for reaching this level of competition this year. Results will be published next week. Well done to Amity McMahon and Katelyn Bodley who were also selected in the Richmond Zone team but had to withdraw from this year’s carnival.

**Little Athletics NSW “Desire to Inspire” School Visit**
Little Athletics NSW is conducting a school visit to St Joseph’s Woodburn on Wednesday, 27th August. The presentation is fast paced and aims to inspire, motivate and encourage more children to ‘get active’.
This educational presentation is intended for all students K-6 and runs for 30-40 minutes and includes discussion about different athletic events, coaching tips and equipment used; plus fun, interactive demonstrations involving the students. We look forward to this visit from Little Athletics. Maybe there might spring from this experience a future Olympian or Commonwealth Games representative from the school.

**Stage Three Lawn Bowls**
Following four weeks of tennis and golf the Stage 3 students will be introduced to lawn bowls. Lawn Bowls is today becoming a young person’s game with many juniors taking up this sport. Commencing on Thursday, 14th August, the Year 5 and 6 students will have the opportunity to learn how to play lawn bowls at Woodburn Bowling Club. Thankyou to Terry Sheen and his band of helpers who have offered to teach the students this game. We look forward to the challenge of the greens over the next few weeks.
NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY AND BOOK WEEK

In Week 6 (18th—22nd August) we celebrate Literacy and Numeracy and Book Week at St Joseph’s. The week gives schools the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities and to recognise locally the achievements of students and the work of teachers, parents and members of the community who support young people to develop stronger literacy and numeracy skills.

Our school will celebrate this special week in each classroom where the students will focus on reading, writing and mathematical activities and they will participate in a Book Jeopardy competition Monday—Wednesday. The final will be held in the Library on Thursday morning at 9.10 am. Parents are encouraged to get involved this year and participate online http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE

On Friday, 22nd August we will have a focus on reading to celebrate Book Week. The children are invited to dress up as a book character on this day and bring along a book to share with others. Parents and Grandparents are invited to bring in a favourite book to share with some of the students in your child’s class. Students may choose to wear their character outfit to school, otherwise normal uniform is to be worn.

Parents are welcome to come along at 9.15 am for our Book Character parade.

The program for Friday is:
9.15 am  Book Character Parade
9.30 am-10.30 am  Shared Reading time in classrooms

A CUP OF TEA OR COFFEE WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY AS YOU GO OVER TO THE BOOK FAIR.

THE BOOK FAIR WILL BE OPEN IN THE LIBRARY ON FRIDAY 8.30 am—3 pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend!

THANK YOU—TUCKSHOP HELPERS

Many thanks to those parents who have offered to help out in our school Tuckshop. Families and staff enjoy the convenience of being able to order lunches on Mondays and Wednesdays, and we really appreciate your generosity of time and effort.

THANK YOU LADIES!

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Monday, 11th August
NO TUCKSHOP

Wednesday, 13th August
Megan Woolley
Kerrie Tunsted (AM)
Robyn Hatcher (PM)