

FROM THE REC

We are off and racing into a busy Term 4. The message from Mark's Gospel on Sunday is for us to sell what we have, give to the needy and take up the challenge to follow Jesus. Imagine this for a moment. Could you do it? What would be the hardest thing to let go? Paul Skippen provides us with the following thoughts:

"We all carry 'baggage,' something that's slowing us down, keeping us from following Jesus more closely. That's partly because our society breeds attachment to such baggage. For some of us, possessions hold us back. Jesus spends some extra time talking about possessions because he knows that people with a lot of possessions can easily become possessed by them.

Here are a couple of other examples. Our society also breeds attachment to revenge. Don't get mad; get even. But revenge breeds revenge. And people who can't forgive are held hostage by the anger that sears their hearts. Our society breeds attachment to pride as well. Don't show your weakness. Never let them see you sweat. But people who never show weakness are phony, and people who never apologise end up lonely.

Jesus wants to help us let go. He offers us strength through prayer and Mass, guidance through the Scriptures and other Christians, forgiveness when we reattach to our baggage by sinning. So look honestly at your baggage. What's keeping you from a life of love and service?"

October is World Mission Month and this week is national Anti-Poverty Week and these events present us with an excellent opportunity to give to others in need. Catholic Mission have a campaign entitled "Sock it to Poverty" which provides information to create awareness and action around the issue of poverty in our world. This year the focus is on Madagascar. For more information go to <http://www.catholicmission.org.au/get-involved/socktober>. Our Year 8 and Year 10 RE classes are currently exploring issues of social justice and will be conducting some activities to promote this worthy cause. Watch this space for updates.

Mrs Tina Watson



Happy Birthday to Chloe Keirle for yesterday, and Laine Redden for last Friday!

We wish Year 12 the very best of luck as they start their HSC exams, and well done for finishing their first English paper on Monday. The girls are well and truly in their study routines and we are sure that they will manage the stresses of the next month.

This week Mrs Daymond and Mrs Moore have taken off on the Boarding Promotion trip to towns out west to promote MacKillop College and St Joseph's House to prospective students.

Meanwhile Year 8 are off on an adventure for the Geography excursion to Katoomba on Tuesday.

The weather is warming up and the girls are having their swimming skills checked to be able to use the Boarding house pool as the summer heat starts.

We are having some Year 6 students come over on the weekend for a sleepover to start introducing them to boarding life. They will be partnered with our Year 7 and Year 8 girls to act as mentors and show them the ropes.

The Bush Children's Education Foundation Bursary Application Forms will be available in November from our office. These can also be downloaded from the website in November at: www.bcef.org.au

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year's Operation Christmas Child campaign organised by Mercy & Justice through the roll groups generated 38 lovingly filled shoes boxes of goodies for a variety of ages of children. The boxes will be distributed to children in the poorest parts of South-east Asia as Christmas approaches so that they get a feel for the joy and blessings of Christmas.

Congratulations go to Gilroy 2 and McAuley 4 who filled and paid the \$9 postage for each of their 5 boxes. They will enjoy a pizza lunch in the near future. To all the other roll groups and MacKillop College community members that contributed, many thanks.

Mrs Sue Lyne

