Dear Parents and Friends,

This is a story that I read recently in a leadership journal. It is one I could really relate to.

**Habit that bind us**

A baby elephant was performing in the circus soon after its birth, and after each performance it was tied up with a chain. Despite its best efforts, it couldn’t break the chain, so it was forced to serve its life as a circus animal.

Over the years, the majestic animal entertained viewers, and then returned to its imprisonment. What it failed to notice was that the iron chains that bound it as an elephant calf were never replaced - and would have been easy for the mature elephant to snap. Sadly, having learned young that the chains were unbreakable, the elephant stopped trying.

How many of us are still locked in our childhood prisons because we have failed to test our present powers? The moral is: we must never stop learning.

We are all like the circus elephant. We are all capable of great things and achieving our dreams. We all have our own chains and self-limiting beliefs that hold us back. This could be a childhood experience or an early failure or something we have been told and it becomes our chain holding us back from doing what we are capable of. We can similarly relate this to our own children and the students in our class. At times, we all hear our children/students say ‘I can’t do ……” We need to help them change this attitude.

We too often play the role of the elephant trainer – as parents, teachers, colleagues or friends. When that happens, remember to handle your baby elephants with care! Don’t be overly critical. Don’t belittle them. Don’t chain them to a peg!

Today, think about the things in your past that are keeping you from achieving goals you want to achieve? Pull these chains out of the ground and start living your life and achieving your dreams.
SAFETY CIRCUS VISIT

This Friday, the Year 3 students will be attending the Safety Circus Show, organised by CQU and Queensland Police, introduced by Sergeant Nigel Dalton. Its aim is to encourage children to feel safe and confident with situations and to learn about the safety networks available to them. Whilst being an educational tool, the children will be entertained, captivated and involved in the energetic, interactive production which will include actions, music and dance. Through the characters and stories, the children will be shown strategies to deal with bullying, bike safety and feeling afraid. Parents and younger siblings are welcome and encouraged to attend to assist with following up these important messages at home.

URGENTLY NEEDED - CLASS CO-ORDINATORS 2016

Thank you to the following parents who have volunteered to be class co-ordinators. We still have vacancies in a number of classes. If you wish to be your child's classroom co-ordinator please contact the office staff or complete the RSVP slip further on in the newsletter.

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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep CN</td>
<td>Kacey Richardson/Kimberley Hill</td>
<td>Prep E</td>
<td>Vanessa O'Keeffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1P</td>
<td>Paula La Gerche/Kym Abell</td>
<td>Year 2D</td>
<td>Inga Delahunty/Jolene Hamann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2S</td>
<td>Year 3J</td>
<td>Jennifer Nield</td>
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<td>Year 3J</td>
<td>Year 4C</td>
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<td>Year 4C</td>
<td>Year 5D</td>
<td>Year 5K</td>
<td>Renae Murphy</td>
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<td>Year 5D</td>
<td>Year 6M</td>
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Tasks are as follows:
* Welcome new families to the school - this could be in person or a telephone call.

* Organise one social class/parent activity per term, eg family fun day, afternoon at the beach, picnic, mums/dads social evening, skating, bowling, movies etc

* advertise social activity to class either through a note or in the school newsletter

*Assist with organising your class stall for the fete

UNIFORM SURVEYS

Thank you to those parents who completed the uniform survey. I really appreciate your feedback. I have met with Uniform Solutions personnel today and they are working on rectify the sizing issues with the girls formal shirts and the sports shirts.

PSW (MARVIC) SALE

PSW will be closing their doors in a few months. They do still have a small amount of MacKillop stock available which include: girls dresses in size 12, 14 and 16, girls blouses - size 16 and a quantity of jackets.

All stock is currently selling at 50% off.

PRAYERS

† Please remember in your prayers anyone who is sick within our community.

We pray for God’s healing and restoration.

Keep Smiling

A. J. Blakey

PrincipaL

APRE NEWS:

Project Compassion

Caritas Australia’s annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia; without it, we could not do the vital work we do.

In Project Compassion 2015, $11.57 million was raised to help the world’s poorest communities. Thank you to all our generous supporters who participated and showed they believe in a more just world.

Project Compassion 2016

As Pope Francis says “Education is an act of hope”, so this year Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning, and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.
Throughout Project Compassion 2016, inspiring stories from Malawi, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Cambodia and India will show how education, training and sharing knowledge can empower individual communities to transform their futures and create lasting change.

“Together we can empower the world’s poorest people with the opportunity to learn, grow and create change.”

Bishop Greg O’Kelly

Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney’s community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people in remote areas of Malawi harness their strengths and pave the way towards a thriving future.

You can donate through School boxes, by phoning 1800 024 413, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

Each class has a Project Compassion Box in which to make donations during Lent. There are also boxes located in the Office and Library.

Sunday 28th February – Children’s Sunday Mass 9am St. Joseph’s Church
MacKillop children and their families are especially invited to participate in Sunday Mass.

SACRAMENTAL DATES!

Family Workshop 4 – Sunday 6th March 10am OR
Wednesday 9th March 7pm – St Joseph’s School Hall
Ritual of Choosing – Parish Masses March 19th/20th
Sacramental Interviews – 18th/19th April
Sacrament of Reconciliation – TBA
Family Preparation Day – Sunday 15th May St Joseph’s Hall

Please Pray for all those who continue their preparation for the Sacraments.
Spend some quiet time with the Lord

God Bless,
Helen Privett
Assistant Principal Religious Education

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and pay respects to their Elders and all Elders, past, present and future.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD
ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH NORTH MACKAY
Held during:
- 6pm Mass - 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month
- 9am Mass - 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

ST BRENDAN’S CHURCH BUCASIA
Held during:
- 7.30am Mass - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

Please note: * Run during school terms excluding holidays

CUMBERLAND SOCCER TRIALS GIRLS
When: Wed 2nd March 2016
Where: Andergrove State School Oval
Time: 3:30-4:30pm
Who: Girls born 2004 and 2005

CUMBERLAND SOCCER TRIALS BOYS
When: Mon 29th Feb 2016
Where: Slade Point Soccer Fields
Time: 3:30-4:30pm
Who: Boys born 2004 and 2005

Please see Mrs Newland to get a permission form to attend the trials. Students must display a high level of skill in soccer to be able to attend the trials.

REMINDER - SWIMMING CARNIVAL 10th March
Pioneer Pool
Nomination forms are due back on the 25th Feb to your child’s class teacher. I really appreciate all of the parents that have offered to help to date....I am however, still after a few more helpers. If you are able to assist, please see the office for a form.

Thank you
Christine Newland :)

WANT TO PLAY.....HOCKEY!!!

The hockey season is just around the corner so if you want to play or need more information, please contact me ASAP.

Further information for The Get Into Hockey Program is still to be confirmed. This is a great introduction to hockey with skilled coaches that runs once per week for 5 weeks.

Information on this currently is sessions will be from 3.30-4.30pm at the locations below. The cost is $70.00 which includes a stick, shin pads, and a ball. Players can register for the 2016 season at any time.

Monday – Fitzgerald State School
Tuesday – Mackay Hockey Fields
Wednesday – Eimeo State School

The 2016 season is due to start on Saturday 5th March.
U7 and U9 will play at 8.00am.
U10 will play at 8.55am
U11 will play at 9.50am
U13 will play at 10.05am

Information on this currently is sessions will be from 3.30-4.30pm at the locations below.

Please see Mrs Newland to get a permission form to attend the trials.

Who: Boys born 2004 and 2005

Please collect a free hockey stick from Mackay Hockey Fields or Fitzgerald State School.

Every single person who signs on to play hockey in the 2016 season will receive an HQ lanyard with a Sports Pass rewards card

All 9 year old players will receive a coupon to collect a free hockey stick from Just Hockey (Mackay)

All 10-18 year old players will receive a HQ drawstring bag

All senior players will receive a HQ branded microfiber towels

Please contact Stacey Davidson for enquiries.
Ph: 0409982184
Email: troydav@bigpond.net.au
Prep CN  Aaron Peever
You bring so much joy into our classroom with your “bubbly” personality and your kind and caring nature. Thank you for sharing with your friends and making sure your friends stay safe. You are awesome!

Riley Titlow
We were so impressed by the number of things you could name starting with the letter “Tr”. Thank you for sharing them so confidently with the class. You are terrific!

Prep E  Bailey Reid
You should be so proud of the way you have been so brave when Mummy goes in the mornings. I love your beautiful smile!! Keep it up!!!

Taya Greaves
You are such a responsible girl at Prep every day. You ask me if you can help and that is wonderful! Mrs E is very proud of you!!

1P  Lillee Taylor
You have been a fantastic worker this week Lillee! You always have lots of ideas to share and you take the time to complete your work carefully. Keep up the super effort.

Talon Whittington
Your show and tell presentation this week was great Talon. We really enjoyed looking at your photos and listening to your stories about your fishing trip. Well done!

2D  Kirra Bruton
I am so impressed with your quiet work this week. It has been wonderful to see you completing your work neatly, correctly and in time. Well done Kirra!

Corban Delahunty
Wow Corban, you are so quick with your rainbow facts, that equal 10. What a clever boy you are!

2S  Dana Guley
Your handwriting is exquisite! It is wonderful to see you taking such great pride in your work. Great job!

Chase McDougall
Congratulations Chase! You did an excellent job of listing “short e” and “short I” spelling words during our class rotations. Well done!

3J  Aynslei Paton
Wow! What a super effort with your homework. It is neatly presented and all expected tasks are complete. Keep it up!

Mikayla Green
For the thoughtful gesture of giving some clothes to charity for Lent. The clothes will be very much appreciated. You are so kind!

4C  Kai Hancock
For the fantastic effort you put into retelling the Dreaming Story “The Bat and the Crocodile”. You included all the important parts of the story and added some detail to your writing. Superb work Kai!

Mia Cundell
For excellent work in Maths lessons this week. You understood how to say, write and order large numbers and helped your classmates when you were finished your work. Well done Mia!

4S  Harley Rowlands
For the way you have commenced Year 4 with such a positive attitude and great enthusiasm. You are always willing to work hard and strive to do your very best. Super!

Ashton Brazier
For working hard to complete your Maths activities so speedily and accurately. Keep up the fabulous effort Ashton!

5D  Emily Rowlands
You are congratulated on your consistent effort in all areas. You are organised and focused, this is a recipe for success. You are Super!

Charli Bliss
Congratulations Charli on your fantastic homework. Your presentation is outstanding. You are a Super role model to our peers.

5K  Ella Steel
For working quietly and unobtrusively in class. You application towards your work is impressive.

Cody Hamilton
Cody you amazed me this week for your gentlemanly behaviour. You looked out for a class member who was injured and ensured she was able to complete her work. You were trying hard to be a WEST person.

6M  Declan Pace
I congratulate you on your patience and dedication to your classwork. The way you’ve been trying to get all your work up to date has been fantastic. Wonderful to see Declan!

Jasmine Green
You are our class champion of multiplication facts. Your skills are of a high standard and your work is always set out in a neat and logical manner. Excellent work Jasmine!

6R  Mersades Lawson
I am totally and most absolutely impressed by your commitment to improve your reading skills. You are showing that you are a voracious reader, devouiring our “Take Home Readers”. I love it Mersades!!

Klay Hancock
What an absolute delight it was to read your handwriting! I have noticed a significant difference not only in your neatness but in the sizing of your letters also. You are a shining example of setting a goal and striving to make it happen.

PE Award 2016 Sports Captains – Mersades Lawson, Phoebe Franklin, Letitia Talbot, Kona Ellul, Baylen Waldon and Kelsey Dalglish
Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm in making sure the sports equipment is accessible for all students. You have also taken it upon yourselves to run some activities in the hall during lunch for the younger students. That is impressive! Keep up the amazing effort!

Media Award  Destiny Rowlands
For your positive “have-a-go” attitude in Media lessons. You attempt all tasks cheerfully and never give up, even with new concepts. Fantastic effort, Destiny!

Indigo Lui
For quietly and patiently working on completing computer activities, always putting your hand up when you need help. Great work Indigo!

Principals Award  Benjamin Korneliussen
The way you participated so enthusiastically in the NAPLAN practice questions on Tuesday when I was teaching your class. Well Done!

BIRTHDAYS FOR WEEK 4

Feb 15  Brodie Cridland
16  Jude Ackerman
16  Hayley Close
16  Joshua Derdziak
18  Zarnae Whitehead
19  Chelsea Kitchin
19  Hunter Wooley
20  Zavier Shepherd
20  Monaemia Smith
P & F News:

P & F EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS
The P & F is currently taking nominations for those interested in a P & F Executive Position. To do this, you must have another person nominate you for the position by filling out a nomination form (available from the office). If you are interested in one of the positions and would like further information, please don’t hesitate to contact either Deb Allan (0423 794 395), Jackie Franklin (0407 736 631) or Melissa Durnsford (0428 842 080). The AGM Meeting is scheduled for Monday 7th March and wine and cheese will be provided by the P & F.

FETE COMMITTEE
Those interested in joining the fete committee are invited to the first meeting on Friday 26th February in the Library at 3.10pm. Please contact Melissa Durnsford on 0428 842 080 if you are interested in helping but are unable to make the meeting.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MASQUERADE BALL
Tickets are now available to purchase for the Mackay Catholic Education Week Masquerade Ball. They are $125 each and include:
- Glass of Champagne Upon Arrival
- Seafood Buffet Deluxe
- Live Music by “Kaviar”
- Prize Draws throughout the Evening

Tickets are available online via the Mercy College Website www.mercymackay.qld.edu.au. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Melissa Durnsford on 0428 842 080.

PIZZA MEAL DAY
Order forms were sent home last week for our Pizza Meal Day on Friday 4th March. They can be dropped back into the office. Please see the office if you require another form.

If you have any suggestions for the P & F, please fill out a suggestion form available in the office and pop it into the red box. Alternatively you can email your suggestions to presidentmackillop@gmail.com Remember to check out the MacKillop P & F page on the website where you can find our contact details and the latest meeting minutes. MacKillop Catholic Primary School.

Deb, Mel and Jackie

DATE CLAIMERS
Fete Committee Meeting – Friday 26th February 2016
Pizza Meal Day – Friday 4th March 2016
P & F and AGM – Monday 7th March 2016
Disco – Friday 18th March 2016
2016 Catholic Schools Masquerade Ball – Friday 22nd July 2016
Fete – Saturday 3rd September 2016

SCHOOL FEES
Please note that ALL school fee accounts will now be emailed to families due to the rise in costs and 3-5 day time frame in postage delivery. We are in the process of updating our database with the current information provided by you in the (BLUE) family information forms. Once school fees have been processed we will notify you via text. If you do not receive your account or have not advised us of an email address for your fees please contact the office ASAP.

Second Hand Uniform Shop
Our second hand uniform shop is open Monday and Friday after morning assembly, in the spare year 7 classroom!
Jubilee 150

This year we celebrate 150 years of the Catholic Church in the Mackay and district. Bishop Michael McCarthy will lead us in the celebration of a Mass of Thanksgiving held on Sunday 22nd May at St Patrick’s Church at 11am. Following Mass you are invited to a picnic lunch (BYO) in the grounds of St Patrick’s College to continue the celebration. (Tea, coffee and cold drinks provided) From Friday 20 May through to Sunday 22 May there will be a display in the St Patrick’s Hall, acknowledging the gift of the Church within our community. Parishes and organisations from across the region have been invited to contribute to this display which will be open to the public. More information will be communicated as the celebration draws near.

Community Notices:

**Jubilee 150**

This year we celebrate 150 years of the Catholic Church in the Mackay and district. Bishop Michael McCarthy will lead us in the celebration of a Mass of Thanksgiving held on Sunday 22nd May at St Patrick’s Church at 11am. Following Mass you are invited to a picnic lunch (BYO) in the grounds of St Patrick’s College to continue the celebration. (Tea, coffee and cold drinks provided) From Friday 20 May through to Sunday 22 May there will be a display in the St Patrick’s Hall, acknowledging the gift of the Church within our community. Parishes and organisations from across the region have been invited to contribute to this display which will be open to the public. More information will be communicated as the celebration draws near.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS AMENDMENT**

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT DUE TO UNFORESEEN MATTERS, THE DATE FOR MACKILLOP’S SCHOOL PHOTOS HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM TUES 1ST MARCH TO TUES 22ND MARCH.

**COME PLAY FOOTY AND HAVE FUN!**

Is your child interested in playing rugby league? Would they like to meet new friends and be part of a team?

Sign them up with the family club today! We are currently signing players from under 6 through to under 16. Come and play in a friendly environment with dedicated, experienced coaches.

Sports Expo and Sign-On Day
Mackay Entertainment Convention Centre
Sunday, February 14 from 9am-1pm

Northern Beaches Bowls Club
Sunday, February 28, 9am-12pm or
Contact our registrar Kim Wilson on 0411 042 556 or register online at playnrl.com

**Marriage Encounter**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings – away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset... your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Watch our new video - YouTube: [https://youtu.be/5Hdl2Zl2Zxc](https://youtu.be/5Hdl2Zl2Zxc)

Weekend date: 3 – 5 June 2016
Venue: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane’s bayside)
For bookings/details contact: Maria and David Murphy, ph (07) 3342 1456, danmmurphy@optusnet.com.au
Information website: www.wwme.org.au

**Chinese New Year**

Bring in the Year of the Monkey at the Chinese New Year Celebrations. Enjoy Asian cuisine food stalls, Chinese Lion Dancers, a Fire Show and interactive Tai Chi sessions. Fun for the kids including arts and crafts activities, face painting. Kevin the Magical Balloon Man and a jumping castle.

Saturday, February 20
4pm - 8pm
Victoria Street Markets
(145 - 147 Victoria Street)

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

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