

3rd August 2023

Dear Parents /Carers,

We are celebrating Mercy Day at Catherine McAuley on Friday, 1st September 2023. Mercy Day is one of the most important events celebrated at Catherine McAuley. It is a compulsory school event and all students are expected to attend. We extend an invitation to all parents to join us in our celebration of Mass and Commissioning of our School Captains and Student Leaders for 2023/2024 with Mass commencing at 9:30am in the Morley Centre.

All students are to wear their full winter uniform to and from school. They may change into appropriate theme dress, *McAULEY REWIND: Decades from the 60's Onwards*, after the Mass. The theme of their dress cannot include any item that can be considered a weapon or an offensive motif. As part of the student's theme dress they are not to wear high heeled shoes or thongs. Students' outfits need to reflect the values of the school and for sun safety they should not wear strapless or singlet tops. As students will be outside for lunch, they should bring a cap/hat and sunscreen.

Mercy Day is a day where we can help others by raising money for Mercy Works Charity – Timor Leste, Chicken and Egg Program. We are asking each student for a \$2 donation. This money will be collected in Homeroom in the week leading up to Mercy Day. We aim to fundraise \$10,000 for Timor Leste during Term 3, so please financially support the range of events throughout Term 3 and the activities and stalls on Mercy Day.

On Mercy Day students can participate in activities ranging from team games, disco, student-led activities, food stalls, drink stalls and a thrift stall. The cost of these activities will range from \$1 to \$5. Students will also be busking throughout the afternoon. There will be a café in Mercy Square and a fashion parade to highlight the theme of the day, *McAULEY REWIND: Decades from the 60's Onwards*. These activities have been assessed as a low risk and participation is voluntary. We encourage students to bring coins on the day as eftpos facilities will be limited. A reminder that students can't use their mobile phone to pay for items while at school.

We would like to thank the Parents and Carers Group of Catherine McAuley who will be assisting with lunch for students and staff on this special day. Lunch, as requested by students, will be a sausage sizzle with a meat, gluten free and vegetarian option. Students will indicate their preference via a Google Form, shared with them prior to the day. If your daughter has other dietary requirements she will need to see Ms Grigson by Wednesday, 16th August.

The program for the day is set out below:

8:40am Homeroom
9:30am - 11:00am Mass and the Commission of Leaders in the Morley Centre (Parents and Guests)
11:00am - 12:30pm Recess / Lunch (Students only)
11:30am - 1:30pm Student Activities (Students only)
1:30pm - 2:40pm Disco and Activities (Students only)
2:40pm - 3:10pm Clean Up, Homeroom Roll Marked and change into school uniform

For this community event students may bring a camera to take photos, mobile phones or any other technical devices are not to be used as a camera. If students choose to bring a camera it is their responsibility to ensure it is used responsibly and it is secure throughout the day. As per the School Policy students are not to post photos or publish comments on any social media sites or messaging applications.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Debbie Grigson Assistant Principal