CELEBRATING 100 YEARS 1914-2014

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Francis Xavier Primary School, Ballarat East and the Sisters of Mercy have a reason to celebrate. This year marks 100 years since the registration of the school and the philosophies of community spirit and excellence in education still ring true.

On Tuesday 10th of June, the school, founded by the Sisters of Mercy, celebrated one hundred years since the registration with the Registered School Board.

The children came together for a Liturgy with our Co-Governors Sr. Berenice Kerr and Father Adrian McInerney, the Sisters of Mercy and St. Francis Xavier School community. The celebrations also included a Centenary cake, a whole school photo of current students and staff and the long held tradition of sharing an icy pole at the conclusion of the day.

 "All are good and happy. The blessing of unity still dwells amongst us- and oh what a blessing – it should make all things pass into nothing. All laugh and play together, not one cold stiff soul appears…This is the Spirit of the Order indeed – the true spirit of Mercy." *Letter to Elizabeth Moore,1841.*

Following in the Mercy tradition of Catherine McAuley, the staff also came together in the original building - Fortune's Folly (1902) or otherwise known as the 'Pink Room' to embrace Catherine's favourite activity of sharing "in a…good cup of tea…to comfort one another" *Letter of Mary Vincent Whitty to Cecilia Marmion in Sullivan, Catherine McAuley and the Tradition of Mercy, p.243.*

 This special day enabled us to celebrate our Mercy forebears and act as a reminder of how fortunate we are to be part of St. Francis Xavier Primary School.

"Hurra for foundations, makes the old young and the young merry."

 *Letter to Cecilia Marmion, January 4, 1841.*

The school communities of the past, present and future will continue to come together for a weekend of festivities on 25th & 26th October.

Messages to [Paul Bissenella - Principal](#)