



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

Our vision for St Mary MacKillop Primary school is, to be:

A Christ centered community which challenges students to develop their unique gifts and talents through a supportive partnership of school, parents and parish.

The importance of supportive partnership cannot be stressed enough in achieving our vision. I am really keen over this term to learn how our school and parents work in partnership for our kids. Our Welcome Barbecue tonight is a great example of partnership and I look forward to seeing you there and saying hello.



Thank God for Office Ladies!!!!

The 'face' of any school is the staff who work in the office. They greet as we enter and wish us well as we leave. They are there on our worst days – when our child's lunch is left behind or when our kids have an accident on the playground. They are there on our best days – when we drop off the cakes to celebrate birthdays and when we are signing in to attend the award assembly. They never lose their cool and they always answer our calls with a smile. At St Mary MacKillop we have the best office ladies in the diocese.

If you agree with me, why not take the chance to let them know you appreciate it when you see them next?

Attendance is the key to your child's success!!!

We realise some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. However we also know that when students miss too much school, no matter the reason, it can cause them to fall behind academically. The more absences your child has, the harder it is for them to catch up on missed work and stay connected to their school community. Absences add up quickly. If your child is absent one day every two weeks over the course of a school year this will add up to 20 days loss of education. This is almost half a school term.



Together We Grow.

Mr Scott Buchan - Principal

Religious Education 2017 Action Plan

All schools in the Parramatta Diocese are required to have Action Plans in the areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Religious Education. These plans are meant to be short, precise and "dynamically lived" documents (updated at the end of each term), which articulates the school's strategic work in the areas of Formation and Literacy and Numeracy. The School Action Plans are informed by school data with SMART Learning Goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time-targeted), for improving student learning outcomes.

School Action Plans form the basis for the professional learning of teachers so that the learning of the students can improve.

This year the Religious Education goal is: For all students to improve their understanding of Scripture and its application to their lives.

This goal will be achieved by using teaching strategies that will encourage all students to develop a deeper understanding of the meaning of scripture and its application to their lives. Though making deep connections between scripture, God/Jesus, Sacraments and Christian behaviours students will gain a better understanding of Catholic traditions and practices.

Class Prayer Bags

Class prayer bags have now been distributed to classes. This year the Prayer Bags will come home on a more regular basis (every third night) to allow each family to receive the Prayer Bag more than once a year.

Prayer is an important part of the life of a Catholic school and the Prayer Bags offer a link between home and school through prayer. We hope that when your child brings home this bag for the that you will gather together as a family, and use the contents of the prayer bag to pray together. We also invite you, as a family, with your child to write a prayer in the prayer journal.



The prayer written by your child will become part of the class prayer during the week or on Friday afternoon.

The Prayer Bag is a very special and sacred bag. We know that you, with your child will take care of it and see that it is *completely and safely returned to school* to ensure every child is given the same prayerful opportunity. Thank you for joining with the St Mary MacKillop Community in prayer.

2017 Sacramental Program - Reconciliation Parent Meeting, 7pm

Tues 28th Feb

The Parish based Sacramental Program will begin this year with the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance). Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will commence with a parent only session on Tuesday, 28th February at 7pm.

If you wish to enrol in this program it is compulsory that at least one parent/carer attend. This meeting will be held in the St Nicholas Church. This program is for all children in Year 3 or above who have been baptised and would like to enrol in the Sacramental Program.



All enquires to Colleen Nichols (Sacramental Coordinator)
at St Nicholas Parish House 47212509.

Opening School Mass and Year Six Leadership Ceremony: 9:30am Friday 17th February

Please join us for our Opening School Mass on Friday 17th February at 9:30am. At our mass we will gather as a school community to pray for God's blessing on the school year and welcome our Kindergarten students, new students across the grades and new teachers to St Mary MacKillop Primary School. We will also induct the Year 6 students into their 2017 leadership roles.

We look forward to seeing you as we celebrate our Catholic Faith together.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 1st of March is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. The Season of Lent is the 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count) and is a time of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.



Ash Wednesday is the day for us to take stock of our spiritual lives and we are encouraged to attend Mass on this day in order to mark the beginning of the Lenten season. As Lent begins, we should set out specific spiritual goals we would like to reach before Easter and decide how we will pursue them—for instance receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

To celebrate the beginning of Lent there will be an Ash Wednesday Liturgy, led by Year 3, at 9:15am on the 1st March in the hall. All parents and family members are warmly invited to attend this special prayer time.

During the liturgy the ashes, which give Ash Wednesday its name, will be distributed. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts.

The distribution of ashes, is a tangible reminder of our own need to focus on being better people. Through acts of penance comes a change of heart – a coming back to God. Our personal Lenten journey should be marked with reflection, prayer and penance. Throughout Lent we should strive to model the actions of Christ. As the prophet Joel wrote:

**'Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks –
come back to me with all your heart.'**

Mrs Gillard
Religious Education Coordinator

Sports News

Congratulations to the 70 students who participated in our Twilight Swimming Carnival last week. The evening ran very smoothly thanks to the many helping hands from our staff and parent community. The Nepean Zone Carnival will be held at Glenbrook Pool on Tuesday 21st February. Notes will be going home to our Zone team this week. Age Champion and Runner Up trophies will be presented at our whole school assembly tomorrow, Friday 17th at 2:20pm.

Maryanne McNally
Sport Coordinator

Our next P&F meeting will be held Tuesday 21 February 2017, 7.00pm in the school hall. All welcome!

A friendly reminder of who is who on this years executive committee.

President - Erin Carroll
Vice President - Tracey Marsh
Secretary - Sonya Peters
Treasurer - Michelle Darwen
Major Fundraising - Natalie Cilia
General Fundraising - Natalie Borg & Veronica Neal
PRC Representatives - Natalie Borg & Sonya Peters

We warmly invite you to come and chat with us if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering in upcoming events :)

AN INVITE FROM THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT - PARENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

THE CYBER SAFETY LADY: RAISING RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL CITIZENS

This FREE event for all parents, caregivers (over 18 only due to content) is the best way to get educated for the start of a new year and new term!

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Leonie Smith, The Cyber Safety Lady, expert in cyber safety and author of "Keeping Kids Safe Online".

If you want to educate yourself or broaden your horizons with how you can be savvy online in keeping your children safe - don't miss this opportunity!

PLEASE SHARE SO EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND.

We look forward to seeing you, details below:

When: Monday, 27 February 2017 - doors open at 6:30pm for 7:00pm start

Where: Gilroy Catholic College, Marie St, Castle Hill

What: PRC AGM will be held prior to the our above speaker presentation

Natalie Borg and Sonya Peters
P&F PRC Representatives

ONE A PENNY, TWO A PENNY... HOT CROSS BUNS!!

Our first fundraiser this year, with the support of Bakers Delight Nepean Square, will be an Easter Hot Cross Bun Drive.

Flavours available will be Mocha, Choc Chip, Traditional, Fruitless and a new addition... APPLE CINNAMON!

Packs are \$7 and contain 6 buns each. \$2 from every pack goes directly to the school.

Order forms will be sent home to each family on Wednesday, 1 March 2017 ... So spread the word and get your family and friends involved :)

Natalie Borg and Veronica Neal
P&F Fundraising

P&F SURVEY

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who have participated in the online survey.

We appreciate your feedback and encourage those yet to participate to send us your thoughts on 2016 and what you are interested in for the future.

The survey can be found posted on the school Facebook page. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BLMZZB3>

Erin Carroll
P & F President



'ZERO TOLERANCE' OF ILLEGAL PARKING IN SCHOOL ZONES TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD

When it comes to the safety of vulnerable road users like school children, drivers found breaking the law will be met with zero tolerance. Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need you to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones

WHEN AN OFFENCE IS DETECTED A FINE AND 2 DEMERIT POINTS APPLY

Illegal parking around schools endangers children's lives.

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

FACT/S

If you've heard the expression "It's only a matter of time until someone gets hurt" then you understand why it is important for everyone to obey the road rules.

A child hit at an impact speed of 30km/hr has a 99% chance of surviving. At 70km/hr the chance of survival is less than 7%.

Source Australian Transport Safety Bureau.

What does this mean?

You cannot stop in this area for any reason.

Why is it there?

To keep sight distance clear for drivers, children & other pedestrians to avoid crashes.



What does this mean?

You cannot stop or park in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for buses to set down & pick up passengers



What does this mean?

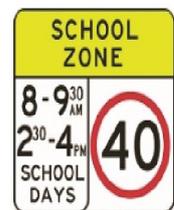
You can stop in this area to drop off or pick up passengers for a maximum of 2 minutes. You must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

Why is it there?

To provide safe places for children to be picked up - usually associated with Kiss & Ride zones.



40 km/hr School Zones are provided to increase the safety of all pedestrians, but especially children, who are walking in the vicinity of schools. Obey the limit and be aware of the time of day.



Parking on footpaths/nature strips is an offence - fines can be issued that include the loss of 2 demerit points.

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL



Enrolments for 2018 now open!

St Dominic's College 2017 OPEN DAY Sunday the 5th of March

You are invited to join us for our Annual Open Day at the College from 10am to 2.30pm.

The morning session starts at 10:00am, followed by a tour of the College at 10:30am.

The afternoon session starts at 12:30pm followed by a tour of the College at 1:00pm.



St Dominic's College 54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747
ABN 12 838 505 432 Ph: 02 4731 1933 Fax: 02 421 0166
Email info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au Website: www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au

Dates for Your Diary Term 1—2017

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday	16 February	3:30pm-5:00pm 5:30pm-7:00pm	Open Classrooms P & F Welcome BBQ
Friday	17 February	9:30am 2:20pm	Opening School Mass & Year 6 Leadership Ceremony Whole School Assembly
Tuesday	21 February	8:30am	Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival @ Glenbrook Pools
Tuesday	28 February	7:00pm	Parent Meeting for Reconciliation (St Nicholas Church)
Thursday	2 March	11:30am	Year 5 Graffiti Talk
Friday	3 March	2:20pm	Year 6 Leaders Conference Whole School Assembly
Friday	17 March	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 5 Mass Whole School Assembly

Caroline Chisholm COLLEGE

2018 ENROLMENTS
FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

Open night: Monday 6th March 2017 (6 - 8:30pm)

Come along and see for yourself why girls are so happy to learn at Caroline Chisholm College. Information sessions:

6:30 to 7pm - 7:30 to 8pm
Tours of College Facilities

Further information can be obtained on our website www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au

90 - 98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park
Enrolment packages can be obtained by contacting the college on **4737 5500**

Follow us on  

After School Drama

@

St Mary MacKillop School Hall

Wednesdays

@ 3.15pm INFANTS KIDS (K-YR2)

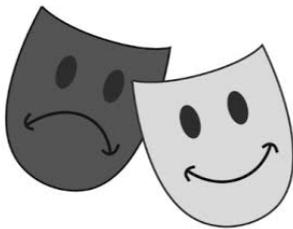
@ 4.15pm PRIMARY KIDS (YR3-6)

Limited Vacancies! Get in quickly!

www.kidscanact.com.au

Mrs Cathie Parkes:- 0414 475 158

ENQUIRIES and ENROLMENTS to be completed through the website above or call Cathie. NOT the school office.



Supervision available from 3.00pm on the verandah.

The children sit and eat a snack and go to the toilet.

INFANTS KIDS Class starts at **3.15pm** (1 hour)

PRIMARY KIDS class begins at **4.15pm** (1 hour)

Supervision available from 3.00pm for PRIMARY KIDS till 4.15pm upon request. (Conditions apply)

HIGH SCHOOL KIDS Class at 5.45pm **WEDNESDAY**@ South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre

MIXED AGES GROUP Class at 3.30pm **THURSDAYS** @ South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre

Mrs Cathie Parkes taught for 8 years at St Mary MacKillop in a part time capacity.

Mrs Cathie Parkes:- 0414 475 158

www.kidscanact.com.au

2017

SCHOOL CANTEEN ST MARY MACKILLOP

HOME-MADE TREATS

Me's Banana Bread	\$2.00 G
Me's Fruit Muffins	\$1.50 G

ORDER YOUR LUNCH ONLINE

www.flexischools.com.au

DRINKS

99% Juice Popper	\$2.00 G
Apple, Orange, Apple & Blackcurrant	
Spring Water 330ml	\$1.50 G
Spring Water 600ml	\$2.00 G
Oak Flavoured Milk 300ml	\$2.50 G
Chocolate, Strawberry, Vanilla Malt	
Quench Mineral Water 330ml	\$2.50 G
Apple Raspberry, Lemon Lime, Orange, Lemonade	
Milkshakes	\$3.00 A
Chocolate, Strawberry, Caramel	

FRESH FRUIT & TASTY BITES

Fresh Seasonal Fruit	\$1.00 G
Apple, Orange, Banana	
Watermelon Cup	\$1.50 G
Mixed Fruit Cup	\$2.00 G
Yoghurt & Fruit Bowl	\$1.50 G
Custard Bowl	\$1.50 G
Grapes & Custard Bowl	\$2.00 G
Jelly Bowl	\$1.20 A
Jelly & Custard	\$2.00 A
Red Rock Deli Chips & Smiths	\$2.00 A
Honey & Soy, Sea Salt, Salt & Vinegar	
Mamee, Comtos & Rice Sticks	\$2.00 A

BIRTHDAYS - CUPCAKES OR ICE-CLOCK BUCKETS - ENQUIRE WITHIN CANTEEN

CRUNCH & SIP



*Available Before 9am **\$2.00**

Bottle of Water 350ml plus a choice of a Apple, Banana or Orange



Mel's Tasty Bites

Healthy Canteen Operators & Catering Services

SANDWICHES

Rolls & Wraps	Extra \$0.50
Gluten Free - Sliced	Extra \$1.00
Cheese	\$2.50 G
Cheese & Tomato	\$2.80 G
Salad	\$3.50 G
Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$3.60 G
Chicken & Salad	\$4.00 G
Egg, Lettuce & Mayo	\$3.50 G
Tuna & Lettuce	\$3.50 G
Vegemite, Jam or Honey	\$2.20 G

SUPER SALAD BOXES

Greekumber	\$5.00 G
Tomato, Cucumber, Spanish onion, Pitted Olives, Greek Feta	
Chicken Caesar Pleazer	\$5.00 G
Grilled Chicken, Cos Lettuce, Egg, Cheese, Croutons	
Chicken Buster	\$5.00 G
Grilled Chicken, Tabouli & Hummus	
Secret Garden	\$5.00 G
Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Spanish onion	
Finding Nemo	\$5.00 G
Lettuce, Tomato, Spanish Onion, Tuna	

EXTRAS

Avocado	\$0.80 G
Boiled Egg	\$0.80 G
Tabouli	\$1.00 G
Hummus	\$1.00 G
Lite Ham	\$1.00 G
Grilled Chicken	\$1.00 G
Lunch Bag	\$0.20
Spoon/Fork	\$0.30
Sauce Portions	\$0.30

BURGERS, ROLLS & WRAPS

Grilled Chicken Burger	\$4.20 G
Fish Burger	\$4.20 G
Chicken Schnitzel Roll	\$4.20 G
Cheeseburger	\$4.20 G
Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap	\$4.20 G

OLD FAVOURITES

Chicken Breast Nuggets	\$0.80 A
Baked Fish & Wedges	\$4.00 A
Garlic Bread Roll	\$2.50 G
Chicken Noodles	\$3.20 G
Beef Noodles	\$3.20 G

FROZEN TREATS

Juice Cups	\$2.00 G
Zooper Dooper	\$1.00 A
Frozen Yoghurt	\$1.50 G
Home Ice-Cream	\$1.50 A

MONDAY TO FRIDAY SPECIALS

MONDAY

Chicken Fried Rice \$4.00 G

Fresh Vegetables & egg tossed with steamed rice
With a hint of soy sauce & real chicken breast

WEDNESDAY

Pasta \$4.50 G

Penne Bolognese

Premium mince cooked with Italian sauce &
herbs and tossed with penne pasta

TUESDAY

Beef & Bean Nachos \$4.50 G

Toasted Corn Chips, Seasoned beef & beans, lettuce, tomato,
smashed avocado. Sour Cream & Cheese

THURSDAY

Home-made Pizza \$4.00 G

Margarita - cheese & tomato

Hawaiian - pineapple, Lite ham & extra cheese

BBQ Chicken - seasoned chicken, Spanish onion, capsicum & bbq sauce

Cheesy Garlic Pizza - Garlic & Extra Cheese

FRIDAYS

Hot Dog w/ Sauce \$3.70 A

Party Pie \$1.00 A

* Please note - Salad boxes &
Burgers are not available on
Fridays...

HEALTHY FOOD GUIDELINES
G GREEN / A AMBER / R RED