



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop Primary School,

National School Improvement Tool

Next Wednesday and Thursday our school will be running a pilot program in our Diocese for the implementation of the National School Improvement Tool (NSIT) Review. The NSIT Review is used to drive school improvement processes in schools and is highly regarded in Australia as an instrument to measure school improvement.

Highly trained Reviewers from the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER) will conduct the NSIT Review. During these two days ACER will also train selected system leaders and principals to be NSIT Reviewers.

The two days will consist of interviews with the leadership team and all staff members, and will involve looking at evidence of quality teaching and learning within our school. Members of the Parents and Friends Association and students from each class will be interviewed. On the day following the NSIT Review (Friday 12 September), the lead Reviewers and trainee Reviewers will again visit our school to present the report to the principal and leadership team. The team will discuss the affirmations and recommendations with the school and this forms the beginning of developing a school improvement plan.

After the pilot at St Mary MacKillop, the CEDP system will evaluate the effectiveness of this program and the results of the evaluation will help determine whether Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will adopt the NSIT.

No Canteen at SMMK

Thank you to the many parents who have expressed their thoughts regarding the introduction of a canteen at St Mary MacKillop through emails, in person and at P&F meetings. After listening to community feedback we **will not** be pursuing the introduction of a canteen for 2015. Special meal days will continue as has been the custom at SMMK in the past.

A Father's Day Prayer

*"Fathers young, fathers old
 Remembering good times are our gold.
 Value earned through guidance given
 Helping us go forth in livin'.
 Each father adding to our trove
 A treasure chest of love untold.
 Remembering fathers in our lives
 Taking time to realize.
 Fatherly love brings wealth to living
 Remembering this, we go forth in giving.
 Fathers young, fathers old
 We remember you all
 As life unfolds."*

Susan Kramer

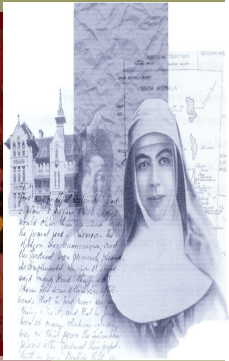
HAPPY FATHERS DAY TO ALL OUR DADS

Thought for the Week

"Schools are like racetracks, and educators are like pit crews. But it's the students who are at the wheel. They must want to win, and they must believe they can win. Their parents and other fans should be there, cheering them on and making them feel like they can do it."

Erich May 2014

Have a Blessed Week
 Michael Siciliano
 PRINCIPAL



Religious Education News

St Nicholas Parish Mass

A big thank you to Mr Carroll, Jedd K, Corey A, Harrison B, Ella Mc, Lily L, Lachlan H, Jordan F, Azahlia J, Brooke R, Lily S, Stephanie R, Alex D, Aidan Mc, Lachlan C, Ella L, James R, Patrick R and Grace R who provided the music for the 10:00am Sunday Mass on the 31 August at our Parish Church, St Nicholas of Myra. Your participation, in celebrating the faith was a great way to foster our school and parish relationship. Congratulations.

The Sacrament of Confirmation:

Please keep the Year 5/6 students in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next Tuesday 9 September. This sacrament empowers the children with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and marks their final initiation into the Catholic Church.

Father's Day Liturgy: 10:00am Friday 5 September:

All dads, granddads and male role models are invited to our Father's Day Liturgy on Friday 5 September at 10:00am. This liturgy will be led by Year 1 and will celebrate the wonderful gift that fathers are to our lives.

Mrs Leesa Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

From the Assistant Principal

Before School Duty:

Please remember that the school gates are opened at 8:15am each morning. At this time the children are brought up to the playground. There have been a number of times when children have been waiting outside our school gates unsupervised. If your children walk or ride to school they need to be arriving no earlier than 8.15am.

School Excursions:

Over the past few weeks our children have been participating in a number of extra curricula activities. Recently, Year One visited Australian Pioneer Village, Kindergarten visited Calmsley Hill Farm and Year 3 have been on an excursion to CARES learning about bicycle safety. On the sporting field, we have had students participate in the Diocesan Athletics Carnival, netball, and touch football trials. In the Creative Arts we have had several children competing in eisteddfods against neighbouring schools whilst currently all our students from K-6 have been invited to showcase their talent in the 2014 edition of the St Mary MacKillop Talent Quest. The Talent Quest showcase will be held on Thursday 18 September at 2:00pm. We are proud to provide so many varied activities to allow all our children to shine across all Key Learning Areas.

ICAS:

Congratulations to all the students who recently received their certificates for the ICAS writing competition. Our students performed exceptionally well. We look forward to more pleasing results from the ICAS English and Mathematics competition.

Good Luck:

We wish Alexandra D. good luck as she represents our school in the semi final of the Diocesan Voice of Youth competition. At a recent assembly, our students and many of our parents were fortunate enough to listen to her speech on 'Friendship'.

Year 5 Leadership Course:

Students in Year 5 have been participating in a 5 Week leadership program that prepares them for their leadership responsibilities and challenges that await them in Year 6 in 2015. The children have been participating enthusiastically and we wish them well as they prepare to present their leadership speeches later next term.

Mr Steve Cauchi

Assistant Principal

Netball Gala Day

Last Tuesday, 26 August, 50 students represented our school at the St Nicholas Netball Gala Day. After being rained out on our original date, the students were very eager to get out on the court and play! All our teams had a flying start! 9 years: Won one and lost one. 11 years: Only played one game and won. 12B: Won one and lost one. 12A: Only played one game and won. Boys: Played two games and won them both. Unfortunately the rain couldn't hold off and the day was cancelled after Round Five. It was such a shame as all our teams had spent so much time training and preparing. The students were extremely well behaved, well-mannered and displayed fantastic sportsmanship. A huge thank you to our coaches: Ms Sibbald, Mrs Anderton, Mrs Gallen, Mrs Cutts and Mrs Rowan and also to Mr Dunn and Mrs Neal who sacrificed a lot of time to help out in the rain.
Miss McNally

EMU Review

Since 2010, SMMP has been an EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) School. Each year, three Year One students join the EMU Program, where they participate in a 30 minute intensive, hands on maths lesson each day. The program lasts for 20 weeks (or 50 hours) and this week sees the students complete the program and be certified as EMU Graduates! A huge congratulations to Xavier M, Isla D and Amelia D who have grown in enthusiasm, confidence, knowledge and skills during the EMU Program. On Monday, the EMU students and I will travel to the Angus Kavanagh Centre., Mt Druitt to participate in an EMU lesson in front of many EMU specialist teachers from around the diocese. They have been absolute delights to work with and I wish them all the best as they continue to use their clever maths thinking in the classroom. Next week, three new Year One students will embark on the second round of EMU. I look forward to meeting the new EMUs and extending their mathematical thinking. - *Miss McNally EMU Specialist Teacher*

P & F News

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day - THANK YOU:

Thank you to the following families that did such an amazing job in decorating our school on one of the most important days of the year. McGuinness, Billington, Ellston, Proberts, Randall and Inskip. A very special thank you to Mrs McGuinness who created a fast production line whilst packing the lolly bags with great passion. You are all truly amazing and it was an absolute pleasure working with you as a team.

Father's Day Bakers / Stall gifts - Friday, 5 September

Calling all bakers. We are requesting the baking skills from families with students in Year 5 and 6 (or anybody else) for our Father's day morning tea taking place after the liturgy. If you are able to contribute, please leave your baked goods at the canteen prior to the liturgy. Thank you.

Well done to all the families that placed their Father's day orders. Father's day gifts will be delivered to each classroom on Friday, 5 September for all the students who placed their paid orders before the cut off date. If your child missed out on ordering a gift, please contact Veronica Neal on 0425 213 850, order forms are still available on the school website in the 'notes sent home' section. Thank you.

DANCE-A-THON draw to take place Friday, 5 September 2014

Don't forget to hand in your Dance-a-thon sponsorship forms with money by Thursday, 4 September for a chance to win a Dymocks Voucher. One lucky winner from each grade will be chosen, but only if you hand in your form and money, so make sure you don't miss out. Winners will be announced at the whole school assembly tomorrow. There will also be a candy hamper for the Grade that raised the most money. Thank you for your support in all fundraising events throughout the year. **BARGAIN**

BUS BUYERS - SAVE THE DATE - 10 seats left

Don't forget to put it in your calendar **Saturday, 11 October 2014**. Please see the flyer for details on the school Facebook page or contact Fiona Bryant on fionaw@smartchat.com.au.

SCHOOL DISCO - SAVE THE DATE

Just a heads up that our student school disco this year will be taking place on Thursday, **23 October 2014** (sorry, I had the wrong date in the last KIT). More information to follow soon and helpers are always appreciated at these events to ensure students are supervised whilst enjoy their evening.

SOUTHLANDS REWARDS PROGRAM - REMINDER

Please don't forget to collect your receipts and place them in the box at the Southlands Shopping Centre with our school name on it. Thank you so much for your support.

God Bless

Liz Whalen - On behalf of the P & F Executive Team

MATHS OLYMPIAD

Answer to Question 4 - Week 6 Term 3:

Strategy: Apply the distributive property of multiplication over addition.

What is the value of $(1 \times 50) + (22 \times 50) + (28 \times 50) + (49 \times 50)$? $= (1+22+28+49) \times 50 = 100 \times 50 = 5000$

Question 5 - Week 8 Term 3:

How many two-digit whole numbers contain the digit 4?

Dates for Your Diary Term 3 - 2014

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	5 September	10:00am	Father's Day Liturgy and Stall
Monday	8 September	2:05pm	KD Assembly Talent Quest Auditions Monday-Friday
Friday	12 September	9:15am	Year 2 Liturgy Stage 3 Boys & Girls Touch Football
Monday	15 September	2:05pm	1M Assembly
Thursday	18 September	2:00pm	Talent Quest Showcase
Friday	19 September	9:15am	Kindergarten Liturgy Term 3 Ends

Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2014

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday	7 October	8:45am	Students return for Term 4 Summer School Uniform
Monday	13 October	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Monday	20 October	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Tuesday	21 October		School Photos - Summer School Uniform
Thursday	23 October	6:00-7:00pm 7:15-8:30pm	Kindergarten-Year 2 Years 3-6
Friday	24 October	9:15am	Year 3 Liturgy
Monday	27 October	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Tuesday	28 October		Year 2 Penrith Lakes Excursion
Thursday	30 October		Year 5 Teen Ranch
Friday	31 October		Year 5 Teen Ranch
Monday	3 November	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Wednesday	5 November	9:00-11:00am	2015 Kindergarten Orientation Morning
Thursday & Friday	6 & 7 November		Year 6 Canberra Excursion
Monday	10 November	2:05pm	5G Assembly
Tuesday	11 November	7:00pm 7:30pm	Parent Representative Meeting P&F General Meeting
Thursday	13 November	6:00pm	Year 5 Personal Development Information Night
Friday	14 November	9:15am	Year 4 Mass St Dominic's & Caroline Chisholm Year 6 Orientation
Monday	17 November	2:05pm	4H Assembly
Tuesday	18 November		Year 2 Botanical Gardens Excursion