



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

Our school constantly strives 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.

As the principal of our great school I made a commitment when I joined this community to focus my professional learning this year upon building my understanding of our patron saint – St Mary MacKillop. I have undertaken some reading, I have visited her resting place at North Sydney and engaged in her life story through the exhibits at Mary MacKillop Place.

However, to further develop this learning I also committed to journey to Penola, South Australia to see for myself the place where her work in education really began. During the school holidays, my fifteen year old son Liam and I drove in my ute through southern NSW, the south coast of Victoria and into the Coonawarra region of South Australia. It was a great week together to ponder life's great mysteries and spend some quality time together. The time we spent at Penola though, was transformational for me. Through talking with the staff at the Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre and engaging with the exhibits and artifacts there my knowledge of Mary MacKillop grew so much. As an educator, an Australian and a catholic, her works and her story are nothing short of inspirational. What she was able to accomplish with little training, very few resources and the challenges of her time is amazing. Please don't ever let me use money, life's obstacles or lack of knowledge as an excuse for providing less than the best for your child. Her very honest work ethic, passion for the success of children and undeniable faith in her cause and her God are wonderful examples for all who work in education and with children.



Quite simply the motto of 'Never see a need without doing something about it' is so practically an expression of the greatest commandment 'love one another' which is the mission each and every one of us is called to as Catholics and as members of this community.

Together We Grow

Mr Scott Buchan – Principal

The Rule

'...their duty is to do all the good they can and never see an evil without trying how they will remedy it.'

The Sisters shall

- give themselves wholly to God
- be poor, humble, and consider themselves the least among all religious orders
- principally educate the children of the poor
- be prepared to take charge of schools in any district
- not allow themselves to be irritated by the noise and perverseness of the children
- be without revenues, deriving support from their schools, institutions, or from alms
- live in houses owned by the diocese, fitted with furniture such as poor people use
- accept [a Bishop's] decision as final, provided that it does not violate the rule
- be under the authority of the Sister Guardian-General, elected every six years

They shall wear

Improved Facilities at St Mary MacKillop

The recent school holidays saw a number of workers coming into our school to renovate and upgrade the facilities in which we work and learn.

We finished replacing the carpets in all the classrooms from Year 3 to Year 6. Our spaces now look much brighter and are a more

pleasant place to work.



We also had some concrete trucks come in to pour a new base for our 'outdoor classroom'. It is now a much safer place to learn and play. It is also a lot easier to work in. Thank you to the Gale family for their support and advice in completing this project.



Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Tuesday 8th August

Mary MacKillop's Story 1842 - 1909

On January 15, 1842 Mary MacKillop was born of Scottish parents, Alexander MacKillop and Flora MacDonald in Fitzroy, Victoria.

Mary, the eldest of eight children, was well educated by her father who spent some years studying for the priesthood in Rome but through ill health had returned to

Scotland until 1835 when he migrated to Australia with his parents. Unfortunately, he lacked financial awareness, so the family was often without a home of their own,

depending on friends and relatives and frequently separated from one another.

From the age of sixteen, Mary earned her living and greatly supported her family, as a governess, as a clerk for Sands and Kenny (now Sands and MacDougall), and as a teacher at the Portland school. While acting as a governess to her uncle's children at Penola, Mary met Father Julian Tenison Woods

who, with a parish of 56,000 square kilometres, needed help in the religious education of children in the outback. At the time Mary's family depended on her income so she was not free to follow her dream. However, in 1866, greatly inspired and encouraged by Father Woods, Mary opened the first Saint Joseph's School in a disused stable in Penola.



Young women came to join Mary, and so the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph was begun. In 1867, Mary was asked by Bishop Shiel to come to Adelaide to start a school. From there, the Sisters spread, in groups to small outback settlements and large cities around Australia, New Zealand, and now in Peru, Brazil and refugee camps of Uganda and Thailand. Mary and these early Sisters, together with other Religious Orders and Lay Teachers of the time, had a profound influence on the forming of Catholic Education as we have come to know and experience it today. She also opened Orphanages, Providences to care for the homeless and destitute both young and old, and Refuges for ex-prisoners and ex-prostitutes who wished to make a fresh start in life.

Throughout her life, Mary met with opposition from people outside the Church and even from some of those within it. In the most difficult of times she consistently refused to attack those who wrongly accused her and undermined her work, but continued in the way she believed God was calling her and was always ready to forgive those who wronged her.

Throughout her life Mary suffered ill health. She died on August 8, 1909 in the convent in Mount Street, North Sydney where her tomb is now enshrined. Since then the Congregation has grown and now numbers about 900, working mainly in Australia and New Zealand but also scattered singly or in small groups around the world. The "Brown Joeys" may be seen in big city schools, on dusty bush tracks, in modern hospitals, in caravans, working with the "little ones" of God - the homeless, the new migrant, the Aboriginal, the lonely and the unwanted, in direct care and in advocacy, in standing with and in speaking with. In their endeavours to reverence the human dignity of others and to change unjust structures, the Sisters and those many others who also share the Mary MacKillop spirit continue the work which she began.

This great Australian woman inspired great dedication to God's work in the then new colonies. In today's world, she stands as an example of great courage and trust in her living out of God's loving and compassionate care of those in need. *(Extract from the Sisters of St Joseph).*

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day Celebrations: Monday 8th August

This year, to honour our school patron, St Mary MacKillop, we have a fun-filled day planned which will include:

- A variety of engaging, fun activities to learn about St Mary MacKillop
- 11:15am Mass at St Nicholas of Myra (this will be led by Year 5 and all parents, friends and parishioners are warmly invited to join us.)
- A special treat from the P & F
- Announcement of the winning class of the 'Bingo' fundraising competition for the Mary MacKillop Institute
- Talent Quest Showcase

The work of the Mary MacKillop Institute is very important because it carries on the work of Mary MacKillop through the Sisters of St Joseph. This important group is always in need of financial support to continue to care for the needy, therefore this year, to raise much needed funds ***each class will participate in a donation Bingo Competition. The rules are simple - bring in your coin donation and get your teacher to mark the coins off the class bingo board. The first class to fill their board wins a prize.*** This fundraiser, will, in a simple way, help our school community to carry on St Mary MacKillop's motto of ***"Never see a need without doing something about it."*** So start collecting your SILVER AND GOLD COINS now!!!!!!!!!!!!

A detailed note and permission slip has been sent home. Please return the completed permission slip to your child's teacher by Wednesday 2nd August.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: Enrolment Masses

A reminder that the Enrolment Masses for the Sacrament of Confirmation are this weekend; Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th July. You can attend any of the mass at St Nicholas:

Saturday 29th July at 6pm

Sunday 30th July at 7am, 8:30am, 10am or 6pm.

At the Enrolment Mass you will need to present your completed Enrolment Form that was handed out at the Parent meeting on Tuesday 25th July. All children who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation **must** be enrolled in the program.



If you have any questions regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation please contact the Sacramental Coordinator, Colleen Nicholas, at the parish house on 47212509. Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Feast of the Assumption: Tuesday 15th August, 9:15am Whole School Mass

Tuesday 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption, a holy day of obligation. The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the belief that the body and soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken into heaven after the end of her earthly life. God gave her this privilege because of her sinlessness and role as the Mother of Jesus. Mary's assumption into heaven is seen by many as a fulfilment of Jesus' promise to all faithful servants; that they too will be received into the kingdom of God. To celebrate the Feast of the Assumption we will have a whole school mass in the hall at 9:15am on Tuesday 15th August. All parents and friends are invited to attend.

Mrs Leesa Gillard
Religious Education Coordinator

Talent Quest

Some students in Stage 2 showcased their amazing talent today at their Talent Quest heat. Tomorrow, Friday, Stage 3 will be presenting their acts in the hall to all of Year 5 and 6.

A reminder that our Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 students who are interested in participating at their talent quest heat will be performing next Thursday 3rd August to staff and students (notes must be returned this week).

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place getters from each stage heat will be performing at the Talent Quest Showcase as part of our St Mary MacKillop Feast Day celebrations on Tuesday 8th August at 1.45pm in the Hall. All are welcome.



Danceathon

Students will be participating in our annual P&F Danceathon on Wednesday 16th August in the Hall, presented by Pistachio Entertainment. Students will be participating in a 45 minute session of Zumba dance moves. During Week 3, students will receive a sponsorship card to collect pledges for donations from family and friends. This danceathon is a major form of fundraising, organised by our P&F committee, to raise funds that will assist our school. Our P&F Committee will be supporting the day by supplying the students with a drink and treat.

Cellos for sale

We currently have three different sized cellos for sale. If you are interested in purchasing one for your child, please write a note to Mr Carroll with contact details.

Weekly Creative Arts groups

Students are invited to participate in the following Creative Arts groups that occur on a weekly basis.

Junior Choir (K, Yrs 1, 2) Tuesdays at Lunch
Primary Choir (Yrs 3, 4, 5, 6) Wednesdays at Eating Time
Stage 3 Dance Troupe Wednesdays at Recess
School Orchestra Tuesdays at 3pm (*invited students from Years 4, 5, 6*)

Yours Creatively,

*Mr Brad Carroll
Creative Arts*

SMMP FETE - MAY 2018

Thank you to the wonderful parents who joined us for the first planning meeting. To give other parents the opportunity to jump onboard, we are holding another meeting on 2 August 2017 at 7pm in the school hall.

We are looking for people to coordinate the following stalls: Kidzone (Face, Nail & Plaster painting etc), Sideshow games (Choc-a-toss, Hoopla, Footy pass etc), Trash & Treasure, Chocolate Wheel & Lucky Ticket. If this sounds like you, please come along to the meeting to find out more, or contact us at escarroll1@gmail.com.

BACK TO THE 80's TRIVIA NIGHT: 2017 MAJOR FUNDRAISER - TOMORROW NIGHT!!

Break out the fluoro and crimp your hair. This promises to be a fun night for all, with a Live Band, Silent Auctions, Games and prizes galore.

BYO drinks and nibbles. Prizes for Best Dressed and Best Decorated tables.

Contact the school office on (02) 4736 3466 to book & pay for tickets/tables.

\$10 per person (8 people per table only)

There are still a couple of tables left. Don't be shy, come along and join the fun.

As well as the awesome prizes we have for auction on the night, we have three major items up for grabs on our dedicated Facebook page. If you can't be there on the night, this is the perfect opportunity to be part of the action.

Check out St Mary MacKillop Primary Silent Auction on Facebook. Bidding is now open.

RAFFLE TICKETS - Tomorrow is your last chance to bring in sold/unsold raffle tickets.

If you are not able to make the event, this is another great way to support the fundraising efforts of the school.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN HAS COMMENCED

We are excited to be taking part in the 2017 promotion. Earn 1 sticker for every \$10 spent at Woolworths (ends 19 September 2017)

The P&F have set up a central collection box in the school office. All you need to do is place your stickers in an envelope, send it to school,

and place them in the box provided. Our wonderful P&F volunteers will do the rest

Tell your family, friends, work colleagues and neighbours and ask them to help collect stickers for our amazing school. Every extra sticker helps :)

PEER SUPPORT AND BUDDIES BBQ - THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the Hicks, Petrovski, Mathewson, Petulla, Cavanagh and Carroll families for volunteering your time and resources.

The Yr 6 children spent a lovely bbq lunch together in the sunshine with their Kinder buddies, celebrating the end of their Peer Support training.

SAVE THE DATE

Fathers Day Stall - Thursday, 31 August 2017

Fathers Day Breakfast and Liturgy - Friday, 1 September 2017

Boys Night In - Friday, 15 September 2017

* Keep an eye on the school Facebook page for more details on our upcoming events *

Erin Carroll
P & F President

Sport News

Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day

The new date for the Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day is **Wednesday 2nd August**. We have 3 teams from Years 3 and 4 selected to represent us at Jamison Park.

St Mary MacKillop Athletics Carnival

Last term, we held our school level Athletics Carnival at Blair Oval St Marys. It was a gorgeous day of sunshine and it was great to see our students getting involved and having a go! Thank you to the many parents who gave up their time to help on the Long Jump Pit and as time keepers - we appreciate you so much!!! Thanks to our ex-MacKillop boys: Josh, Max, Rick, Cooper and Hayden for coming back to your roots and lending us a hand on the day. Ribbons for the top 4 place getters in each event have been distributed; congratulations! A huge congratulations to our age champions, top effort!

Junior Female Champion - Amber S
Junior Female Runner Up - Rafferti G

11 Years Female Champion - Judith G
11 Years Female Runner Up - Keely M

Senior Female Champion - Hannah S
Senior Female Runner Up - Sienna M

Junior Male Champion - Jarred H
Junior Male Runner Up - Ryan G

11 Years Male Champion - Joshua M
11 Years Male Runner Up - Harrison M

Senior Male Champion - Mitchell H
Senior Male Runner Up - Liam P and Brock S



Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival

The Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival will be held at Blacktown International Sports Park on **Thursday 10th August**. We wish our Zone team the very best of luck as they represent our school in the track, field and relay events.

Opportunity to trial for 1500m track event

Margaret Thornton is calling for expressions of interest for the 1500m track event. She has sent us the following information

[Trials for the 1500m Event for the NSW PSSA State Team will be held at the 2017 NSW PSSA Athletics Championships on 18th /19th October @ Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre.](#)

[To qualify for these trials, students enrolled in Catholic schools affiliated with NSWCPs \(Polding and MacKillop\) will need to complete an Expression of Interest including supporting documentation with ratified times and submit to their Diocesan Sports Coordinator.](#)

[All students wishing to compete must advance through our pathway. We will NOT hold this event at our Diocesan Athletics Carnival.](#)

[For more information please contact Miss McNally with your ratified 1500m time.](#)

Netball Gala Day

The St Nicholas Netball Gala Day will be held at Jamison Park on **Tuesday 22nd August**. Mrs Rowan, Mrs Mathewson and I are currently trialling netball players from 8yrs and up. As always, we have had a large turnout of hopeful students and we thank you for giving up your lunch times to trial. We will be announcing the teams in Week 3 and will be asking for any mums and dads who would be able to assist as coach or manager on the day.

Miss Maryanne McNally
Sport Coordinator

Mel's Tasty Bites Healthy School Canteen Operators

Canteen News

All lunch orders are to be dropped off to the canteen by 9.15am the latest. Any lunch orders that come in after this time cannot be guaranteed to have the lunch they specifically ordered.

With a number of schools now having their lunch at 11am instead of 1pm, this becomes quite difficult when lunch orders are still arriving at 10.30am.

As we are a healthy canteen and everything is made fresh on the premises, we make to order.

Those schools, that we have introduced the Online Ordering System – Flexi Schools, we suggest to avoid disappointment that you order online.

To order online, please visit www.flexischools.com.au, you will need to register your details. As this is a third party to our company, we do not have access to your account.

We ask if all staff can make sure the lunch basket is dropped in to the canteen at 9am each morning.

Hot Noodles, drinks, slushies, milkshakes and ice blocks that are ordered with your lunch order are only placed in lunch baskets for the kindergarten students but all other students in year 1-6 will need to come back to the canteen with their lunch bag that is placed in the lunch basket to pick up these items. This is due to OH&S health and safety regulations as hot and cold cannot be placed together.

Just to fill you in a little about what we have on offer for you;

- We are starting a new competition at all our canteens called "Lucky Lunch Bag". A child will be randomly selected each day and they will receive a second lunch bag which will contain a Mel's Tasty Bites Surprise. It can vary from stickers, skipping ropes, books, and other cool school and sport stuff.
- We also have an account system, where it runs on credit, you can leave minimum \$25 or more on your own personal account at the canteen, that way your child will never have to miss out on recess or a treat at lunch time. You can also let us know if there are certain items you do not wish your child to purchase. This is a separate account to Flexi Schools.
- We have a Loyalty Card System, every time your child places a lunch order at the canteen over \$4.00, they will receive a stamp on their card, once they reach 10 stamps, they will receive a FREE lunch to the value of \$5.00... How cool is that? So be sure to pick up your loyalty card with your first lunch order at the canteen. Just note that the card is the parent's responsibility as they are not recorded at each canteen as it is impossible for us to do.
- If your child has an allergy, you will find on our website home page, a link at the bottom of the page where you can download a copy of the foods we have on offer if your child has a certain allergy.

Not sure what to do for your child's upcoming birthday?

- We make fresh and homemade cupcakes for your special birthday girl or boy to share their special day with their friends at school. Place your order within 72 hours and a gorgeous tray of cupcakes will be ready for pick up for your little ones special day.
- In summer, we also have a birthday bucket filled with '99% Fruit Juice Ice sticks' for a Student to share with their class on their special day...

We offer many more services, and have specials throughout the week so be sure to stay tuned by Liking our Facebook Page and visiting our website often.

Mel x

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,	That equals ..	Which is ...	and over 13 years of schooling that's ...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day 



Dates for Your Diary Term 3—2017

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Friday	28 July	9:00am 2:20pm 2:15pm-3:15pm 6:30pm	Stage 3 Talent Quest Heat Whole School Assembly Second Hand Uniform Shop Open P & F Trivia Night
Tuesday	1 August		English ICAS
Wednesday	2 August	8:30am	Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day @ Jamison Park
Thursday	3 August	11:30am-12:30pm	Talent Quest—Infants Heat
Friday	4 August		Staff Development Day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tuesday	8 August	11:15am	Feast of Mary MacKillop Mass @ St Nicholas
Thursday	10 August	8:00am	Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival @ Blacktown Olympic Park
Friday	11 August	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 1 Liturgy Whole School Assembly-2A Assembly Item
Tuesday	15 August		Stage 1 History Excursion to Pioneer Village
Wednesday	16 August	11:00am-1:30pm	Danceathon
Thursday	17 August		Math's Olympiad
Friday	18 August	9:15am 2:20pm	Kindergarten Liturgy Whole School Assembly-3M Assembly Item
Tuesday	22 August		St Nicholas Netball Gala Day @ Jamison Park
Wednesday	23 August		To Federation & Beyond
Friday	25 August	9:15am 2:20pm 2:15pm-3:15pm	Diocesan Athletics Carnival Year 2 Liturgy Whole School Assembly—4J Assembly Item Second Hand Uniform Shop Open
Tuesday	29 August		Voice of Youth
Friday	1 September	9:15am	Father's Day Liturgy No Whole School Assembly