



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.

Last night was a great example of the power of schools to build and strengthen communities. Our 2017 Christmas concert was a triumph. With Christ at the centre of our celebration, we put the gifts and talents of our children on show and as community we supported and encouraged them from the audience. I sincerely hope that this has gotten your Christmas season off to a joyful start. Thank you for joining us as part of our community.

I want to thank the dedicated and passionate staff of St Mary MacKillop. Our community and kids are so blessed to have these talented people as their mentors and guides. In particular I want to acknowledge and thank Mrs Leesa Gillard. As the Religious Education Coordinator of our school I would like to thank her for leading the team and organising all the parts of our fabulous concert. Mr Brad Carroll also provided intensive support for the children so that they were truly prepared to shine on the night.

I am so proud to be a member and a leader of this community.

Together We Grow.

Mr Scott Buchan – Principal

STAFFING NEWS

It is that time of the year when we move towards finalising staffing for the new school year. Thank you for your patience as we organise our staffing for next year's class groups. In planning for the 2018 school year, please find below a list of staff and grades for 2018 as they currently stand.

2018 Staffing

Kindergarten	Mrs Claire Harman (KH)	Miss Maryanne McNally (KM)
Year 1	Miss Nicole Jones (1J)	Mrs Maree Eisenhuth (1E)
Year 2	Miss Natalie Franklin (2F)	Mrs Leesa Gillard (2G)
Year 3	Mrs Donna Fox (3F)	Mr Darren McErlain (3M)
Year 4	Mrs Leonie Mitchell (4M)	Mrs Amanda Joseph (4J)
Year 5	Mrs Ashlea Milgate (5M)	Mrs Rachel Paine / Mr Brad Carroll (5PC)
Year 6	Mrs Kimberley Mathewson (6K)	Mrs Margaret Meehan (6M)

Diversity Teachers (Learning Support):

Mrs Kelly Gray, Mrs Niamh MacDonald, Mrs Chris Laffan, Mrs Margaret Rowan

School Counsellor: Mrs Jeanne Appleton (Thursday)

RFF Teachers: Mrs Crystal Middleton (Physical Education) Mr Brad Carroll (Creative Arts)

Teacher Librarian: Mrs Maree Eisenhuth **Library Assistant:** Mrs Marina Napoli

Teacher Assistants: Mrs Judy Inskip, Mrs Marina Napoli

Administration Office Mrs Christine Capolupo (M-Th) Mrs Judy Inskip (F) Mrs Jo Groger (M-F)

IT Trainee: Mr Nick Ramsay

Maintenance: Mr Colin Meredith

School Leadership Team:

Stage Coordinators: Mrs Kelly Gray (ES1 /S1), Mrs Margaret Rowan (S2) Mrs Margaret Meehan (S3)

Religious Education Co –Ordinator: Mrs Leesa Gillard

Assistant Principal: Mrs Margaret Rowan

Principal: Mr Scott Buchan

Andrew Chinn Christmas Concert

On Wednesday night (29th November) we gathered as a school community to celebrate the joy of Advent and Christmas. Our concert, led by Andrew Chinn, was a beautiful way to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and I think you would agree that the children looked amazing and sang like angels! The concert would not have been a success without:

- the talent of Mr Carroll and the class teachers who prepared the students so well
- the support of St Dominic's College who kindly allowed us to use their facilities and Mr Barry Walsh who oversaw the set-up, lighting and pack up.
- the many parents, family members, friends and parishioners who attended the night.

Throughout the concert there was a great community feel and I thank all the children, teachers and parents who made the night a wonderful success.



The Season of Advent

The Season of Advent, which begins this Sunday 3rd December, is a period of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Advent marks the beginning of the Church year and the liturgical readings change at the start of Advent from Year A to Year B as part of the church's three year cycle.

As the Season of Advent approaches, it is helpful to re-familiarise ourselves with some of the important aspects of this time of waiting. The word **Advent** means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. The Season of Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day and ends on Christmas Eve. The colour of this season is purple. This is the colour of penitence as well as the colour of royalty to welcome the Advent of the King. The purple of Advent is also the colour of suffering used during Lent and Holy Week. This points to an important connection between Jesus' birth and death. The purpose of Jesus' coming into the world and dwelling among us, is to reveal God and His grace to the world through Jesus' life and teaching, but also through his suffering, death and resurrection.

As the calendar year draws to a close, family schedules and personal agendas fill with meetings, programs, parties and annual obligations. Yet this busiest time of year calls us to draw close to others, above all to God, who became flesh and lived with us. During Advent our challenge becomes – how do we find moments of quiet when we open ourselves to God's presence in our lives? I offer you the following prayer that might start your quiet time with God.

*God of Love,
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for his coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.
Amen.*



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers – Social Justice Activity

The true spirit of Christmas is about giving giving from the heart and giving out of love, just like God gave us his son Jesus Christ on that very first Christmas. As Jesus grew he instructed us about how we should look after each other:



For I was hungry and you gave me food,

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,

I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

I was naked and you gave me clothing,

I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Mt 25: 35 – 36

Our final social justice initiative for the year is well underway! It is evident from the amount of donations that I have already seen in classrooms that we have embraced the true meaning of Christmas and I am very thankful for the generosity within our community. The words spoken by St Mary MacKillop; “never see a need without doing something about it “ are truly alive within our school community.

It would be much appreciated if all hamper donations could be finalised by Monday 4th December so that they can be presented to the St Vincent de Paul Society well before Christmas. Thank you!

Year 6 Graduation Ceremony and Mass – Tuesday 12th December

As the Year 6 students prepare to leave St Mary MacKillop, it is time to celebrate the culmination of the last 7 years of primary school education for our 2017 graduating students. The Year Six Graduation Ceremony will be held at 9:15am on Tuesday 12th December at school, followed by the Graduation Mass at 6:30pm in our Parish Church, St Nicholas of Myra. All in our community are warmly invited to attend these special ceremonies.

Sacramental Program: First Reconciliation 2018

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at St Nicholas of Myra Parish will be in Term 1 next year. To be eligible for First Reconciliation, **children must be in Year 3 or above and must be baptised.**

Parents wishing to enrol their children in the program must attend an information meeting, which will be at St Nicholas of Myra Church on **Tuesday 13th February 2018 at 7.00pm.**

Further information regarding the program will be given at this meeting.

If your child has not been baptised, and you wish to enrol them in the program, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator, Colleen Nicholas on 47 212509.

Mrs Leesa Gillard
Religious Education Coordinator

We have had another busy year in the library, as we come to the end of the school year; please start to return all library books for our end of year processing.

The **Premier's Reading Challenge** saw another successful year of 189 students completing the challenge. Congratulations to all Kindergarten students who completed their first challenge this year. Certificates will be sent home this week.

Special congratulations go to the following students for completing the challenge four years in a row:

**Jorja B, Jessica B, Joshua C, Whyte O'B, Darcy L, Elisha I, Oliver N,
Maddison E, Sara R, Stefania G**

Well done to the following students who have completed the challenge for seven consecutive years:

Cheyenne A, Chloe P, Brock S



The Summer Reading Challenge is open to students to read and record books in the break. There will be prizes for selected students who complete the challenge.

A huge thank you to **Mrs Ellis** and **Mrs Gillard** for covering many of our library books, enabling them to be on the shelves ready to borrow for our students throughout the year.

Our Book Fair has allowed us to purchase new resources to support teaching and learning at St Mary Mackillop, thank you to everyone for supporting this initiative.

Wishing all our families a safe and restful break, and a very Happy Christmas.

Mrs Maree Eisenhuth

Teacher Librarian

CREATIVE ARTS SHOWCASE

Next Tuesday 5 December, we will be holding a Creative Arts Showcase to celebrate our Creative Arts talent at St Mary MacKillop. This showcase will include our extra-curricular groups of:

- Infants Choir (K, 1, 2)
- Primary Choir (3 - 6)
- Stage 3 Dance Troupe
- School Orchestra
- Kids Can Act!

We will be holding two performances on Tuesday 5th December in our school hall. We really hope you can make it and support our talented students.

- 2pm performance for students, staff and parents
- 6.30pm performance for parents & friends

STRING LESSONS 2018

Students from years 3-6 who have lessons with Mr. Russek and Mrs. Bray will be rolled over into 2018 school fee statements automatically. If you wish for your child to cease these extra-curricular lessons, please inform the office or myself in writing ASAP.

If you have a child who you would like to enrol into our Strings Lesson Programme, please see Mr Carroll or collect some information from the office. New enrolments for strings lessons in 2018 will close Friday 8 December.



Year 6 Excursion - Canberra

Our Year 6 students recently visited an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the nation's capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics education rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.



Year 6 Canberra Excursion by Jorja 6M

On Thursday the 16th of November, Year 6 set off on their overnight camp to Canberra. Year 6 met up on the playground at 6:45 am to board the double-decker bus at 7am. On the bus I sat up the top and it was loads of fun. I don't think anyone slept on the way. On the bus we sang loads of songs and it was very exciting. When we reached Goulburn we stopped at a park and had a snack. There was a huge playground and we didn't want to start driving again. After our 30 minute stop, we boarded the bus to reach our destination. Not long after, we finally crossed the border and everyone cheered.

Our first stop in Canberra was at Parliament House. During class we had learnt heaps about Parliament and it was great to actually be there. During our tour we did a role play of what happens in The House of Reps. I was lucky enough to be chosen to play the Prime Minister. The bill was 'Should farmers put aside 5% of their land for native flora and fauna?' Of course the Government won winning over one of the cross benchers. After our role play we went to visit the chambers. We were super lucky and were able to visit The Senate while they were sitting. On our way to The House of Reps, we learnt some new fun facts. These included information about the seventeen courtyards, the boomerang arms, and the fountain. In the Reps there was a lot of green and we were told where Emma Husar sat.

At approx. 2:30pm we got back on the bus to drive to the Australian War Memorial. When we arrived we watched an educational video about the previous wars. We started our tour in an exhibition called 'We will remember them'. During this exhibit we learnt a lot about true stories of soldiers in the army. Then we visited the 'Discovery zone' where we learnt what it was like to be in the army. In the discovery zone we went in a helicopter and there was a box that smelt like a crowded submarine. INSTANT REGRET! You could also see the horrid sight of trench foot and walk around in a submarine. The discovery zone was great but the best part was still to come. Next our tour guide took us to the Roll Of Honour. In the Roll of Honour you could find 102,000 names of soldiers who never made it back home. It was extremely emotional, especially when I found a family relative, John Maslin. Next we visited the grave of the unknown soldier and I had the privilege of reading the ode.



Not long after, we boarded the bus again to drive to our hotel. I was ecstatic when I found out that I was in a cabin with all of my friends. When we got back to our room we had 25 minutes to get dressed and ready for dinner. Once our time was up the teachers knocked on our doors and we all lined up outside. We went into the function room and had dinner. To be honest, it wasn't the best food and it wasn't fair because the teachers got a proper meal. It didn't really matter though because I was too excited to eat. Once we finished dinner we had another 15 minutes back in our room, then we all boarded the bus again to travel to the Australian Institute Of Sport.

When we arrived at the AIS we split up into our classes and were each given a tour guide. Our tour guide, Riley, took us to the arena first. The arena was the first building ever built in the whole institute. Then he took us to some training facilities. They included a gymnasium, a volleyball room, a body conditioning room and a swimming pool which was the warmest room out of all of them. Then we walked back to one of the best places on the whole trip, the sport room. In the sport room there were heaps of simulators and games. There was a paralympian simulator, a skeleton rush simulator, a chin up game, a basketball court, a bike simulator, podiums and much more.

Year 6 Canberra Excursion by Jorja 6M (continued)

On the bus ride home it was so much fun, which is code for it was extremely noisy. We left the AIS at 9pm so we didn't get back to our hotel until 9:20 pm. The first time I tried to find our room I was completely lost but eventually I found my way. We stayed up until midnight eating lollies and chatting. Because we had to get up at 6:30 in the morning I wanted to go to bed at a half reasonable time. All the other girls wanted to stay up talking except for Grace and I, so we moved out into the other room and fell asleep.

Because I was so excited I woke up at 5:45am. No one else was awake so I quickly got ready. Slowly everyone woke up except for Livie. I had a great idea! We all quickly dressed and tried to wake Livie. When she woke up we told her we had 5 minutes until we needed to go to breakfast. She was extremely stressed but when we told her- we all had a great laugh. Because we were all ready by 6:20am we still had 40 mins until brekkie. What else would we do except play hide and seek. I hid in the shower and had to stand on the edge. I nearly fell off when I heard Mr Carroll come into our room. Sienna didn't realise so she just stayed curled up in the cupboard. Finally it was time for breakfast and we lined up outside of the function room. After breakfast we set off for our next destination.

We all drove to the Old Parliament House where we had lots of fun. First up we watched a video on how our country came to be a democracy. Then we headed in to the D-Zone. In the D-Zone there were loads of interactive activities on how to vote and what the requirements are. Then we went into another room where we were going to have our own go at voting.

The options for the best fruit were peach, apple, banana and orange. I would tell you what I voted for but we learnt that votes are a secret ballot. Because the other class had to have a go too we got to play in the nearby rose gardens. The gardens were filled with thousands of types of flowers. It was STUNNING! Once the other class had finished we climbed back on the bus.



Our next stop was what I was most looking forward to. QUESTACON! There were 200 interactive exhibits and they showed that science could be fun. First, we went up the huge ramp passing all of the exciting rooms. Fortunately, we didn't do a tour so we could do our own thing. One of the scientists working there showed us some cool optical illusions and we also got to go inside an earthquake simulator. In another room a volunteer made an electric circuit out of our class. When the electricity came past it gave me a real shock. My favourite part of Questacon was in the last room. The 9m high freefall slide. It was such a shame when my friends didn't go on it but I ripped it off like a bandaid and went straight down. I was more nervous in the line then on the actual slide.

After Questacon it was time for all of my classmates to return home. I was lucky because I got to stay an extra two days for a dance competition in Canberra. I said goodbye to my friends and the bus slowly rolled out of the driveway. Canberra was by far the best excursion in primary school and I wish I could go back every day of the week!



Year 6 Canberra Excursion by Cheyenne 6M

On the 16th and 17th of the month November Year 6 had the time of their lives travelling to Canberra to visit a variety of Australian venues. Firstly, the bus ride took over 3 hours because of the traffic. As soon as we reached Canberra we started travelling towards Parliament House and lucky for us the Senate was sitting so we were able to witness a day by day schedule in Politics and how they work in the field. At the end of our session we were given a snack by the Parliament Education Office.

Later in the afternoon we made our way to the War Memorial and paid our respects to all those who fought in war and had given up their lives to fight for us to become one nation. We participated in a remembrance ceremony where we had a prayer and a laying of the poppies. Later on we saw the Roll of Honour with the names of men and women who had lost their lives in war for the country. It was amazing to see so many people who had given their lives.

At 5:30pm the most exciting part were the cabins. Our accommodation was at the Ibis Style Eagle Hawk.. Happily I got everyone I wanted in my cabin. That night we shared lollies and then we sat around and started talking.

At around 7:00pm that night we left for AIS, we had a tour guide for half our tour and the other half we had free time. We saw many of the facilities that athletes trained in -any sport you could think of was there!

The next morning we were supposed to get up at 6 am in the morning (like who does that). Anyway my cabin didn't want to get up at all. (We were getting into a bit (a lot) of trouble-because we were so slow) Breakfast was at 7:00am and we had scrambled eggs and sausages but not many people liked that so they had cereal.

After breakfast we went to old parliament house. We learnt about voting and how it evolved over the years. We participated in a role play showing how people had to vote and what their answers were. Then when we were finished we had a scavenger hunt and played around in a garden for an hour or so.

Last of all we travelled from old Parliament House to Questacon - which we couldn't wait for. Everyone was eager to show their free fall talents, which not a lot of students did because when you looked down the slide it was like looking in a black hole !

The last part of our journey was the sad part driving home. We would tell stories and always remember Canberra as a memory for year 6!!!!

Year 6 Canberra Excursion by Ella 6M

On Thursday the 16th November Year 6 arrived at school, bright and early to set off on their excursion to Canberra. When I arrived at school everyone was buzzing with excitement. When the bus arrived we loaded our bags into the bottom of the coach and climbed aboard. The coach had two levels. Obviously, I scrambled to the top level as quick as I could and chose the window seat.

It took a long time but after three long hours we arrived in Goulburn so that we could have a lunch break and toilet stop. After that we hopped back on the bus and travelled the rest of the way to Canberra. Once we arrived in Canberra we headed straight to Parliament House.

When we arrived at Parliament House we were all amazed. It was huge! Parliament House must have been one of the biggest buildings I'd ever seen! and when we got inside it was even bigger!!! There were heaps and heaps of hallways leading into all sorts of different rooms and, there were so many clocks! Fun fact -did you know that there are 2500 clocks altogether in Parliament House! While I was admiring the magnificent artworks all around the corridors we were taken into a room where we did a role play of what would happen to a bill in the House of Representatives.

After the role play we headed into the soundproof room above the Senate. It was really cool because we were able to see the Senate sitting and working! But before we went in we were checked for cameras and got them taken off us. After we checked out the Senate they took us to the House of Representatives when we had a closer look at where our members of parliament sit. It was a really great experience going to Parliament House because we got to experience what it was like sitting in the House of Representatives we got to see the Senate sitting and participated in a role play of what happens in the House of Representatives.



Year 6 Canberra Excursion by Ella 6M (Continued)

When we finished at Parliament House we went to the Australian War Memorial . At the War Memorial we visited the roll of Honour and we got to see the Eternal Flame. I found the Eternal Flame really cool because it was raining and the flame didn't go out. We then visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Unknown Soldier was a soldier that they brought back from Gallipoli who wasn't wearing his dog tags so they couldn't identify him. After we visited the tomb of the Unknown Soldier we went to the Discovery Zone where we could put our foot in a hole and a hologram was projected onto your foot making it look like you had the terrible disease... TRENCH FOOT. We could also experience being in a real Iroquois helicopter! The War Memorial was such a great experience because we also went into a very noisy room (a submarine) where there was a periscope and a smelly draw that smelt like old frozen yogurt gone bad! Ewwwwwwwwww!

Once everyone had spent their money at the War Memorial souvenir shop we jumped back onto the bus and headed off to the IBIS STYLES EAGLE HAWK HOTEL which was where we were staying. When we arrived everyone was nervous and silently waiting to see who they would have in their cabin. Lucky for me I had all my friends in my cabin. We raced to our cabin and then got changed to go to the AIS Australian Institute of Sport but before that we had dinner. On the menu for dinner it was sausages, salad, baked potatoes, vegetables and chicken wings. When we had finished our dinner we got on the bus to go to the AIS. On our way there we saw loads of bunnies. When we arrived we were greeted by two athletes who trained there. Our guide was an 800 metre runner and 6K's guide was a hockey player. Our guide showed us around the AIS- some of the things we got to see were the gymnasium, volleyball courts and their training pool which had a tunnel underneath it which allowed you to see into the pool making it like an aquarium!!! After we explored the AIS we went into a sort of discovery zone where we got to do mini rock climbing, a skiing simulator, a bike racing simulator and a snowboard simulator!

When we had all had a look at the gift shop we took the bus back to our cabins where we all got ready for bed. My cabin didn't get to sleep until very early in the morning but eventually we did. The next morning, we woke up and dressed to go to breakfast where we had a selection of sausages, toast, and a range of different cereals. Once we had finished up and scraped our leftovers off our plates we cleaned up our mess in the cabin and loaded our bags into the bus as we weren't going to be going back there. Once we had jumped on the bus the bus driver took us straight to Old Parliament House where we learnt about parliament and how an election works. In our election we had to vote for either apple banana orange or peach. After that we saw a video of how Democracy was made it was really cool because there were little holograms that flipped up to act out the people who were speaking. Then while we waited for 6K we had some activity time in the rose gardens outside parliament house The roses were absolutely magnificent and smelled even better. Our next stop was Questacon .

When we arrived at Questacon we had lunch. We were given a sandwich, a piece of fruit, a packet of chips and a drink . Once we had all finished our lunch we went into Questacon. We had to walk all the way to the top because we had to start at room number one. After the first room, we raced into the second room which had a lightning simulator every 14 minutes which was electrifying and also an earthquake simulator where you went into a little room and built a tower which you hoped would withstand the shock of the earthquake. If your tower fell over you lost.

The other thing that was very interesting about Questacon was the 6 metre high free fall slide. Almost everyone in my class did it! You had to climb the stairs to the slide but when you got to the top you couldn't see the curve at the bottom so I chickened out but watching everyone else do the slide was scary. There was also a room where you got a paper cup and cut strips in the edges to make flaps and then you put the cups on a fan and they propelled up into the air.



After Questacon, we climbed back onto the bus and headed home. On the way home we all stopped at Maccas to have dinner, then hopped back on the bus to travel the rest of the way home. I learnt a great deal of new information that I am excited to share with friends and family. Canberra was a thrilling experience.

Sports News

Last Thursday, 23rd November, 14 MacKillop students participated in the Parramatta Diocesan Gymnastics Competition at the Sydney Gymnastics and Aquatic Centre in Rooty Hill. A huge thank you to Mrs Simone Breia who supervised the girls on the day. Mrs Breia said the girls conducted themselves with respect and were very well behaved on the day. Well done girls!

The gymnasts participated in four categories: Mini Tramp, Vault, Static and Floor. They were scored individually for their events and the scores were also combined to allow for overall school winners. We have some great success stories to share! Sienna M placed 6th in Vault. Keely M placed 5th in Vault, 2nd in Static and was awarded female champion overall! Congratulations Sienna and Keely, huge achievement! As a team, we are delighted that St Mary MacKillop came 1st in the team of 10 division with a total score of 325 points! The girls were over the moon with their trophy today!





2018 Team Sport Trials

Parramatta Diocese 2018 Information For Parents of **current Year 4** and Year 5 students – Registration window open only for Basketball & Tennis ONLY

All correspondence to:
PDCPSSC
 Aengus Kavanagh Education & Equity Centre
 PO Box 215, Rooty Hill 2788
 Tel (02) 9877 4314
 Mobile 0408 278 918
mthornton@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au
 Facebook: Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese

Dear Parents,

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2018 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2017 and Term One in 2018. It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in years 5 & 6 in 2018 be invited to attend. To facilitate this, Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports:

Sport	Age Group	Trial Date	Registration closing date
AFL	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Basketball	Open boys & girls	14th November 2017	Friday 27th October 2017
Cricket	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Diving	10/11yrs girls & boys & 12/13yrs girls & boys	Term One 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2018
Football (Soccer)	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Golf	Open boys & girls	Term Three 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2018
Hockey	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Netball	Open girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Rugby League	Open boys & 11yrs boys - NB. No State team selected for 11 yrs	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Rugby Union	Open boys	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Softball	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Tennis	Open boys & girls	20th November 2017	Friday 27th October 2017
Touch	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form". **Each sport has a different registration criteria.**

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2018 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. You may complete this form to attend a selection trial or if you have been selected in a representative squad or team. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport and when completed, click SUBMIT.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST** be approved by your child's school. In order for your child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of your school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. Please complete all fields and especially "Representative Experience".

Your child's school will notify you one week prior to the trial date if your child is to attend to the Parramatta Diocesan trial for their selected sport by providing a trial information sheet.

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

\$8.00 trialling fee is payable on the day for after school trials & \$10.00 trialling fee is payable on the day for half day and full day trials. – This is to be paid upon registration at the trials once your child has been approved to attend the Parramatta Diocesan Trials.

Please note that the full day trials will be for boys cricket, boys soccer, boys rugby league & boys rugby union. Due to the popularity of boys cricket, boys soccer and girls netball a maximum of 2 children only are eligible to trial from each school. Selection of the 2 boys and girls will be made jointly by the school sport coordinator and principal.

Half day trial for tennis and netball... all other trials will be held after school beginning at 4pm.

MACKILLOP TRIAL

It should be noted that the main purpose of the Mackillop trial is to select a team to compete at the NSW PSSA Championships. The Inter-Diocesan Mackillop Trial is not a competition although a round robin format is often used to facilitate the selection procedure.

NSW PSSA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Children who are successful at being selected in the Mackillop team will compete at the N.S.W. P.S.S.A. Championships. These championships involve three or four days of competition at various locations in NSW. Children selected in these teams may also be required to attend training sessions. At the NSW PSSA Championships a State team will be selected to participate at the School Sport Australia Inter State Exchange for some sports.

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

To be considered for selection in the NSW PSSA state team for participation at all School Sport Australia 12 Years & Under championships: Students must be turning between the ages of 10 and 12 in the year of competition i.e. Students turning the ages of 8, 9 and 13 in the year of competition are not eligible for NSW PSSA State selection.

Please note the following information:

- Parents are responsible for all transport and supervision arrangements and must remain to supervise their child at the trial at all times.
- Children need to generally be of representative standard.
- Attendance at training days, where applicable is compulsory.
- The selector's decisions are final.
- Parents will need to make their own travel arrangements for children representing Parramatta at Inter-Diocesan MacKillop trials. This may mean travel to Sydney, Wollongong, Canberra, Wagga or Forbes.
- Please be aware that the teacher conducting the trial and accompanying the team to the venue is a "Team Manager" ~ not a coach.

If you would like your child to participate in one of the Parramatta Diocesan trials please complete the Team Online Registration Form that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

**NOMINATIONS close Friday 27th October 2017 for the sports of Basketball & Tennis
and entries close Friday 2nd February 2018 for all other sports.**

Kind Regards,

Margaret Thornton

Teaching Educator Primary Sport ~ CEO Parramatta

WEBSITE: www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

The screenshot shows the PDCPSSC website interface. The top navigation bar includes 'HOME', 'SPORTS & EVENTS', 'CONTACT', 'PDCPSSC', 'PDCPSSC', and 'YOUR NEWS'. The main content area is titled 'Representative Selections' and contains a 'REGISTER' button. A red arrow points from the 'REGISTER' button to the registration form on the right.



This is the message that appears once the registration has been submitted correctly and a NO-REPLY email should be received within 24 hours.

Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

Gingerbread House Building

Thursday 7 December

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and the P&F would love the help of a few elves to assist in setting up for our Gingerbread House Building.

If you are available to help set up on Thursday 7 December from 2.30—3.30pm, please contact Veronica Neal on 0425 213 850.



Thank you!

ST MARY MACKILLOP SCHOOL FETE 2018 - MAY 6, 2018

The fete committee have been hard at work finding great ways to raise funds for our school. This will be a fun, family-friendly event, with plenty to do, for all ages:

- Awesome rides
- Jumping castles
- 'Outback Steakhouse' BBQ
- Pass-the-footy competitions
- Face Painting
- Cake and Devonshire tea stalls
- Craft stalls
- Sideshow games
- Showbags... and the list goes on!

SPONSORSHIP OUR FETE

Sponsorship opportunities are still available - if you have a business or work for a business and would like to help out the school with sponsorship but also receive advertising, get in contact with us. We'd like you to get some bang for your buck, so be quick!

From Monday December 4, sponsorship opportunities will be available to those outside of the St Mary MacKillop community.

FOR A SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL EMAIL: smpfete2018@gmail.com or call Catherine Watson on 0408971675.

Please contact if you are able to sponsor, donate or help out the fete in any way.



School Contact Information

St Mary MacKillop has migrated to a new digital phone system which in turn means our phone number has changed. The new school phone number is **02 4724 3200**.

The old phone number is still in effect and will be for the next 12 months, however, when we call you the new contact phone number will be shown on your caller id.



Phone Number Change

Changing Schools

We will be finalising enrolments for 2018 in the coming weeks. If you are changing schools next year could you please notify the school office on 02 4724 3200 or stmarymackillop@parra.catholic.edu.au so that we can finalise any paperwork required for the new school and offer any vacancies to families currently on our waiting list.

Year 6 Cake Stall

Our Year 6 Students will be holding a Cake Stall at both recess and lunch breaks on Tuesday 5 December

There will be cakes, donuts, cookies, biscuits, toffees, cupcakes and lots more for sale. Prices will range from 50cents to \$2.00



Parent Helper Breakfast

All parent volunteers are invited to attend our Parent Helpers Breakfast on Tuesday 5 December at 8:15am on the Hall Verandah.

This invitation includes all parents and friends who have assisted St Mary MacKillop in any way during 2017. This includes the parent reading program, athletics carnivals, sports gala days, assisting in the library, excursions and any assistance with Parents and Friends.



The staff and children at St Mary MacKillop greatly appreciate all the time and effort that our parents and helpers have given to our community and this morning tea is a small gesture of our appreciation.

Please kindly RSVP to the school office for catering by Friday 1 December

Lost Property

There are a lot of jumpers and jackets in lost property at the moment. If your child has lost their jumper or jacket, please feel free to come up after school to check the lost property basket. Anything remaining in lost property in the last week of school will be donated to the second hand uniform shop.

Dates for Your Diary Term 4—2017

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Friday	1 December	2:20pm 2:15 - 3:15pm	Whole School Assembly—5G Assembly Item Second Hand Uniform Shop Open
Tuesday	5 December	8:15am	Parent Helper Breakfast Year 6 Cake Stall
Thursday	7 December	9:00am - 3pm 3:30pm - 5:30pm OR 6pm - 8pm	Year 6 Fun Day - St Mary's Indoor Sports Centre P&F Gingerbread House Construction
Friday	8 December	6 –9pm	Year 6 Farewell Disco
Tuesday	12 December	9:15am 6:30pm	Year 6 Graduation and Presentation Ceremony Year 6 Graduation Mass—St Nicholas of Myra
Friday	15 December		Last Day of Term 4 for Students

Is this safe?



PEANUT AND TREE NUT ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL



- DO NOT **SHARE** FOOD
- **WASH HANDS**
AFTER SNACK AND MEAL TIMES.
- **ASK QUESTIONS** IF YOU ARE UNSURE
OF "SAFE" FOODS.
- READ **ALL** INGREDIENT LABELS.

B E Y O N D
A PEANUT
FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS PRODUCTS

www.beyondapeanut.com
1-877-ALRG-TIP (257-4847)

Thank you
for helping us
provide a safe environment
for our friends with food allergies!



St Mary Mackillop Primary School – Term 4, 2017



Eat Fresh: Healthy Body, Healthy Mind!

Every Day Hot Food

Chicken Nuggets	4 for \$2.80
Chicken Nuggets	6 for \$4.00
Party Pie	\$1.00
Corn on the Cob	\$1.00
Garlic Bread	\$2.00
Chicken Fingers (6)	\$3.50
Veggie Burger	\$4.00
All Burgers include salad	
Salsa Wrap	\$4.50
Chicken Caesar Wrap	\$4.50
Nemo Wrap	\$4.50
Chicken Tender Wrap	\$4.50
Lamb Kebab Wrap	\$4.50

Daily Specials

Monday

Traveller Pie	\$3.50
Sausage Roll	\$3.00

Tuesday

Fried Rice with Chicken Wings (2)	\$5.00
Pasta Bolognese	\$4.00

Wednesday

Lasagne	\$4.00
Sweet Chilli Wrap	\$3.00

Thursday

Beef Burger	\$4.00
Butter Chicken & Rice	\$4.00

Friday

Chicken Burger	\$4.00
Sausage Roll	\$3.00

Sushi Roll

(Available Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday)

Chicken & Cucumber	\$3.50
Chicken Teriyaki	
Tuna & Cucumber	

Sandwiches

AVAILABLE IN WHITE OR MULTIGRAIN

WRAP OR ROLL ADD 0.50c TO SANDWICH PRICE

Vegemite, Jam, Devon	\$2.00
Tomato, Cheese	\$2.50
Tuna or Egg	\$3.00
Leg Ham, Chicken or Salmon	\$3.50
Salad Sandwich	\$3.50
Lettuce Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot & Carrot	
EXTRAS - Including Toasting	\$0.40

Salad

Cup

Fresh Fruit Salad	\$2.00
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Boxes

Garden Salad	\$4.00
With Ham or Tuna	\$4.50
With Salmon or Chicken	\$5.00
Add to your Salad box	ea \$0.40
Egg, Cheese, Avocado, Sprouts, Bacon, Croutons	
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$5.50

Snacks

Piece of Fruit	\$1.00
Cookies, Delights, Popcorn, Jumpy's	\$1.00
Assorted Chips	\$1.30
Screw Top Yoghurt	\$2.00
Fruit Yoghurt Cup	\$2.00
Banana Bread—Slice	\$3.00

Drinks

Juice - Poppers	\$1.60
Plain Milk 300ml	\$1.60
with Sippah Straw	\$2.20
Pop Top Juice	\$2.00
Bottled Water 600ml	\$2.00
Glee 99% Sparking Juice	\$2.20
Blackcurrant, Raspberry, Tropical	
Flavoured Milk Lite 300ml	\$2.30
Fruit 2o	\$2.50
Orange Mango, Dragonfruit	
Iced Tea LOW SUGAR 500ml	\$3.00

Ice Blocks

Zooper Dooper	\$0.80
Frozen Juice Cup/ Icy Mony	\$1.00
Lemonade, Mango or Strawberry Split	\$1.00
Flash Ice Block on Stick	\$1.50
Scooby Chocolate, Banana or Caramel	\$1.60
Looney Tunes Plain Ice Cream Cup	\$2.00
Slushie Cup	\$2.00

Visit the Canteen for ice block specials

Order Your Lunch Online

Orders can be placed before 8:30am

www.flexischools.com.au



Canteen Bento Box

\$5.00

½ Sandwich, Chicken Wing, Cheese and Crackers, Seasonal Fruit & 2 Mini Muffins

Check with the Canteen for the current Meal Deals \$5.00

PLEASE NOTE

♦ Afternoon Tea orders are to be **PICKED UP FROM THE CANTEEN.**

♦ All **ICE CREAMS** ordered with lunch are given out when the **LUNCH BAG IS RETURNED TO THE CANTEEN.**

Kids Can Act - Holiday Workshops

Monday 15 th Jan	Tuesday 16 th Jan	Wednesday 17 th Jan	Thursday 18 th Jan	Friday 19 th Jan
SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH
9.00-3.00pm Very Fairy Princess	9.30-2.30 pm No Such Thing As Dragons	9.00-2.00pm Suitcase of Memories	9.30-2.30pm On Trial: - Fairy Tale Characters	9.00-3.00pm The Magic Paintbrush
	2.30-5.30 pm Scenarios & Drama Games	2.00-6.00pm The Rumour		
Monday 22 nd Jan	Tuesday 23 rd Jan	Wednesday 24 th Jan	Thursday 25 th Jan	VENUES
SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD: -
9.30-2.30 pm No Such Thing As Dragons	9.00-3.00pm The Magic Paintbrush	9.00-3.00pm Very Fairy Princess	9.00-2.00pm Suitcase of Memories	133 Macquarie Rd (next to Domino's Pizza)
2.30-5.30 pm Scenarios & Drama Games			2.00-6.00pm The Rumour	SOUTH PENRITH: - Neighbourhood Centre 3 Trent St. (Behind Southlands)
All prices and workshop descriptions can be found at www.kidscanact.com.au				
Don't miss the EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!				