

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.



How this year has flown.....they say time flies when you are having fun.

I cannot express deeply enough how grateful I am for the strength of partnership and support with which this community has worked with our school this year.

I sincerely hope that this Christmas season and school holiday break is a time of peace, relaxation and love for you all. Please keep safe and take good care of our kids and each other.

The fabulous team here (we really are blessed with such wonderful staff here), are looking forward to journeying with you and the children in 2019. Years 1-6 start full school days on

Thursday 31st January and Kindergarten start full school days on Friday 1st February. We also need you to book in for a Maths Assessment Interview on the Tuesday or Wednesday of that week please.

Take care, thank you again for a truly memorable 2018 and I look forward to joining you again in 2019.

Together We Grow.

Mr Scott Buchan – Principal

STAFFING NEWS

At the end of this year, Mrs Mathewson will be leaving our community to take up a position at another school. When Mrs Mathewson contacted me to share her decision, we also discussed the thirteen years of wonderful service that she has given this community, its staff and its students. This news was both happy and sad for me. I am happy for Mrs Mathewson as she begins this next chapter of her career but sad for our community who will miss her so very much. We have appointed a replacement teacher as part of our 2019 staffing. Welcome to Miss Brittany Gillespie who will continue with us next year. Brittany is currently teaching one of our Year 5 classes.

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 new school year, please find below a list of staff and grades for 2019 as they currently stand.

2019 Staffing

Kindergarten	Miss Brittany Gillespie (KG)	Miss Maryanne McNally (KM)
Year 1	Miss Stephanie Nielsen (1N)	Mrs Maree Eisenhuth (1E)
Year 2	Miss Cassie Wotherspoon (2W)	Mrs Leesa Gillard (2G)
Year 3	Mrs Jessica Tredenick (3T)	Mrs Claire Harman (3H)
Year 4	Miss Victoria Vella (4V)	Mrs Amanda Joseph (4J)
Year 5	Mr Caimin Harris (5H)	Miss Nicole Jones (5J)
Year 6	Mr Grant Martin (6G)	Mrs Margaret Meehan (6M)

Diversity Teachers (Learning Support):

Mrs Niamh MacDonald Mrs Chris Laffan Mrs Margaret Rowan Mrs Ashlea Milgate Mr Darren McErlain

School Counsellor: Mrs Jeanne Appleton (Thursday)

RFF Teachers: Mrs Margo Woodhead (Physical Education) Mrs Natalie Borg Mrs Jenny Viski
Miss Brittany Carey (Creative Arts)

REC Release: Mrs Deb Aliberti
Teacher Librarian: Mrs Maree Eisenhuth
Library Assistant: Mrs Marina Napoli

Teacher Assistants: Mrs Judy Inskip Mrs Kristie Daines Mrs Simone Breia

Administration Office Mrs Christine Capolupo (M-Th) Mrs Nicole Brock (W-F) Mrs Jo Groger (M, Tue, Fri)

IT Trainee: TBA

Maintenance: Mr Colin Meredith

School Leadership Team:

Religious Education Co –Ordinator: Mrs Leesa Gillard
Assistant Principal: Mrs Margaret Rowan
Principal: Mr Scott Buchan

Dear Parents,

As you would be aware, St Mary MacKillop Primary School has had a Professional Development focus on Mathematics since 2011, with the view to continually improve the learning outcomes of all our students in this area.

Led by the Catholic Education Department and supported by our Academic partner Dr Ann Gervasoni staff have been trained in the use of a special assessment tool called 'Mathematical Assessment Interview' (MAI). This is a one to one interview with a student, which takes approximately 30 minutes. The information gathered from this assessment is used to help teachers analyse the mathematical understanding of students across four domains in number – Counting, Place Value, Addition/Subtraction and Multiplication/Division. This information provides teachers with detailed analysis about children's number knowledge. Teachers are then able to provide more targeted learning opportunities to enhance student learning.

It is our intention that every student enrolled at St Mary MacKillop will have completed their interview at the beginning of the year. To assist staff in completing these interviews as early as possible in the new year, we are asking for students who would be available during our **Staff Development Day on Tuesday 29 January 2019 from 12:30pm to 3pm, Wednesday 30 January from 9am to 4pm. We will also have availability on Wednesday of Week 2 (6th February) from 3:15pm to 4:15pm. Kindergarten 2019 students can book for MAI on Thursday 31 January between 9am and 3pm**

Students need to be dropped off and picked up by parents or a designated adult either side of their allocated time. The MAI will be conducted by our teachers.

Our aim is to conduct this interview for as many students as possible in this time frame. This will not only provide staff with knowledge of individual students but data will then be analysed at the class, grade, school and Diocesan level and assist in the promotion of student growth in mathematical understanding.

If you are able to assist us in making your child/ren available for any of these times you will need to log onto:

- www.schoolinterviews.com.au
- Enter the event code **gzjak**
- Enter your email address, type your full name and phone number, select the number of students you will be booking for, enter students full name/s and press **GO**
- Select your child's 2019 year and press **GO**
- A screen will display with available times, simply tick the day and time that suits you. Please note you are able to book the same day and time for siblings, where available..
- A booking confirmation screen will display, please check dates and times are correct and press **FINISH**
- When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately **Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have entered your email address correctly. DO NOT DELETE the email you are sent. You may need to refer back to it.**
- You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time and change your interviews, via a link in the email that was sent to you, when you made your bookings - until the bookings close on Tuesday 29 January at 9am
- Please contact the office if you require assistance on 02 47243 200 or email stmarymackillop@parra.catholic.edu.au

Kind Regards,
Margaret Rowan
Assistant Principal

together we grow

St Mary MacKillop Primary School | 1101 Princes Road Penrith South 2150 | PO Box 807 Kingswood 2147
tel 4739 8498 fax 4739 2681 email stmarymackillop@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stmarymackillopparra.catholic.edu.au



2018 Christmas Carols Evening

On Wednesday night (5th December) we gathered as a school community to celebrate the joy of Christmas. Our carols evening, 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 night would not have been a success without:

- the talent of our wonderful band : Mrs Natalie Borg, Mrs Claire Harman, Mr Brad Carroll, Mrs Margaret Meehan, Mr Jake Wholahan, Mrs Michelle Lenihan, Mr Eamon Lenihan, Miss Natalie Meehan and Mr Andrew Russek
- Mrs Meehan, Mrs Mathewson and Mrs Harman - for preparing the choir
- Mrs Harman and Miss Gillespie - for preparing the dancers
- Mr Rob Greenup for the sound
- All the St Mary MacKillop staff who prepared the students so well
- All the students of St Mary MacKillop
- And finally all the members of the community who attended the night

A huge thank you to one and all!!!

The Season of Advent: Year C

Advent is the first season in the church calendar. Beginning four Sundays before Christmas, its purpose is twofold: first, it prepares us for the celebration of the birth of Christ and second, it reminds us that we are eagerly waiting for Jesus' return in glory.

"Prepare the way of the Lord," serves as a main theme of this season. As we get ready for Christmas, we should not neglect to prepare our lives for Jesus, who came as "the light of the world." His light penetrated a dark world, which allowed all to see their Messiah, and the hope of their future.

Life Is An Advent Season **CONNECTIONS, 11-28-93**

"Life is a constant Advent season: we are continually waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfill. Hope, struggle, fear, expectation and fulfillment are all part of our Advent experience. The world is not as just, not as loving, not as whole as we know it can and should be. But the coming of Christ and his presence among us—as one of us—give us reason to live in hope: that light will shatter the darkness, that we can be liberated from our fears and prejudices, that we are never alone or abandoned.

May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfillment into the Advent of our lives."



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 has nearly concluded and it is evident from the amount of donations 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.



The hampers will be picked up by the St Vincent de Paul Society this Friday, 7th December and I would also like to extend my appreciation for the outpouring of support to this important appeal. We have certainly made this Christmas Season special for many local people in need.

Religious Education News—Continued

Year 6 Graduation Mass and Ceremony – Tuesday 11th 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 2018 graduating students. This year, the Year Six Graduation Mass and Ceremony will be held at 11:30am on Tuesday 11th December in our Parish Church, St Nicholas of Myra. All students will attend and will travel by bus to and from the church. *Please make sure that you fill in the permission slip that was sent home and return it to school by Friday 7th December.*

All in our community are warmly invited to attend this special ceremony.



Sacramental Program: First Reconciliation 2019

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.**

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.

May the joy of the Christmas Season be with you and I wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas.

Mrs Leesa Gillard
Religious Education Coordinator



Kindergarten 2019 Orientation

On Thursday 22nd November, the 2019 Kindergarten students spent the morning in the Kindergarten Learning Space. They had the opportunity to meet some new friends, explore some fine motor activities and engage in some visual literacy stories. The children also met their Year 6 Buddy for 2019. There were lots of smiles, laughs and good times had by all children. Our future leaders were very responsible and ensured that their Kindergarten Buddy was settled by giving them a small book which they had created themselves. We can't wait for lots of learning and fun in 2019!

Miss Maryanne McNally and Mrs Claire Harman
2018 Kindergarten Teachers



Library News

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 goes to those students who have completed the challenge four or more years in a row: They will be presented with their certificates next week.



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, Mrs Martino, Mrs Whalen, Mrs Beazley** 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.

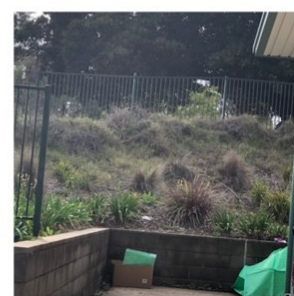
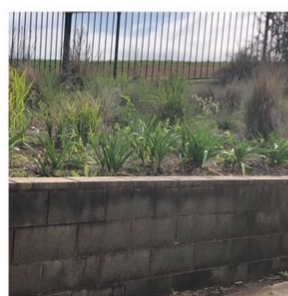
Our Book Fair has allowed us to purchase new resources to support teaching and learning at St Mary Mackillop, thank you to everyone for supporting this initiative.

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

Mrs Maree Eisenhuth
Teacher Librarian

**Our garden project is
FINISHED!!**

**Thank you to Mrs Sykes and
our Year 6
students...**



Year 6 Canberra Excursion

Canberra - Camp 2018 By Billy S

On Thursday the 29th of November I woke up feeling excited as we had to be at school by 6:15 am to board the bus to travel to camp. When I arrived we took the roll and at approximately 6:30 am we ventured to Canberra. This was about a three and a half hour trip with a lunch break on the way. Our first stop was Parliament house. We arrived at 11:00am.

The first thing we did was have a tour of the House of Representatives and the Senate. We were lucky enough to watch both houses sit and even observe our Labor MP, Emma Husar deliver her speech. We acted out a Parliament sitting in a mini version of the sitting rooms, where we met Emma Husar and asked her lots of questions about her work.

At about 1:30 pm we had a tour of the Australian War Memorial and were able to play in the Discovery Zone which was an interactive-hands-on activity centre. We had lots of fun. Some of the activities were flying a helicopter, seeing how it was in the trenches and looking inside an old submarine.

Then we made our way to our accommodation at the Ibis hotel Eaglehawk where we were assigned our rooms. After settling in we put on casual clothes and headed down to the dining room where we ate a scrumptious dinner with sausages, honey soy chicken wings, salads and bread and then we went to the Australian Institute Of Sport for our evening activity.

There we had a tour of the facilities and we could play sport that had advanced technology involved, we could play a penalty shootout and even ski on Mount Everest.

We arrived back at our accommodation feeling exhausted and shortly after- dozed off to sleep.

The next morning we woke up and packed and then had breakfast, from there we boarded the bus to Old Parliament House. There we watched a video about the history of voting and conducted a real vote however, this one was on, what fruit we like best. It was a really good experience and I learnt a lot.

After that we had lunch and arrived at our last destination, Questacon. There we were able to go into rooms and apply our knowledge in interactive science experiments and my favourite part was going on the free fall, which was a giant vertical slide.

When that came to an end we boarded the bus again and began our journey back to school. However, we had to use two buses as one broke down. We finally arrived back at school around 6:00 pm. It sure was a really fun experience and an all-round great camp.

EMU 2018

A huge congratulations to this year's EMU Graduates for 2018. Xavier Fakhouri, Angelique Nehme and Lilliana Faccioli-Evans, who completed 100 EMU lessons with Miss Jones this year to work on their understanding of numbers. They have enjoyed playing handfals and the target game, as well as many other numeracy based activities. They have all made wonderful growth this year and we wish them all the best as they move into Year 2.

Miss Jones (EMU Specialist Teacher)



Year 6 Canberra Excursion

Our Canberra Excursion

By Jake M and Xavier X

On the 28th of November 2018, Year 6 students were very tired as we had to be at school by 6:15 a.m. Everyone knew that it was going to be worth it though, as we would have an exciting but educational stay at Canberra.

We left at 6:30 am and had a very exciting trip to Canberra, where we stopped at Goulburn at 9:00 a.m. and had a recess break. Year 6 then travelled another hour to Parliament House where we saw the House of Representatives and the Senate in action. In the house of representatives Year 6 saw our local member for Lindsay ; Emma Husar, who was presenting a speech for her party, we were hoping the Labor party would win the debate.

In the senate, Year 6 saw lots of senators voting for a bill. After the senate, Year 6 met Emma Husar who talked to us about what she had to do as a local representative and how she represents Lindsay. Year 6 also re-enacted what usually happened in the House of Reps.

After Parliament House, Year 6 took a short trip to the Australian War Memorial to experience what the Australian soldiers did for this country and learned that there were over 102,000 Australians that sacrificed their lives in war to save this country. Year 6 experienced what it was like to be in a war submarine, a helicopter, to be in a trench and what it was like to communicate by morse code.

We then drove to the accommodation to get changed, have dinner which was delicious and were ready to travel to the Australian Institute of Sport. The Year 6's had a tour of some of the facilities where the athletes trained and even saw the volleyball team during a training session. After that, we played some sports games such as skiing, soccer and cricket. This was lots of fun!!!! After the AIS, we drove back to our accommodation to enjoy a good night's sleep for the day ahead. Some of the year 6's may have snuck in a few lollies before bed!!!!

The next day the we woke up very early as we knew that there was a lot of fun things ahead of them. We had breakfast at 7:00 a.m, and left our accommodation so we could arrive at Old Parliament House as soon as possible. 6M and 6K separated into class groups. 6M were having fun outside while 6K learned about how voting worked and the history of Democracy in Australia. After 6K's turn, 6M also learned how voting worked and the history of Democracy of Australia. After 6M's rotation, the whole of year 6 had a banana, sandwich, packet of chips and a bottle of water.

Year 6 met Ms Mulders who is now living in Canberra. She is loving it there as it is so peaceful and there are so many iconic locations.

After Old Parliament House, we students were very excited to visit Questacon. We went to the gift shop to buy extraordinary gifts but were most excited for the activities. We went through a few rooms such as science, woodwork and much more!!!! In the science room, every fifteen minutes there was a custom lightning strike that was amazing!!!! Year 6 then went to the bottom where there were lots of fun and games! Some things were 4 player air hockey, free fall, air hockey against a robot which was very difficult. Year 6 thought that Questacon was the best way to end a Year 6 camp!!!!

On the way back, Year 6 were having such a fun time on the bus as we were very excited to see our families but also have McDonalds, however, on the way back, the bus stopped, for about 5 minutes but then it started again.

Soon after, the bus stopped again, and everyone was worried. Then, the bus driver announced that the battery of the bus was about to run out, and that the bus had to stop soon and Year 6 had to travel home on a new bus. About an hour later, the bus stopped and the Year 6 students were relieved that it had lasted that long. We had some leftover snacks that we had from Old Parliament House which we enjoyed.

Soon after, the bus arrived for us to swap onto and the Year 6 students enjoyed the drive home watching Avengers Infinity War and relaxing in the recliner seats. We were enjoying it for about an hour, but finally arrived back at school at 6:00 p.m We were very happy to see our families!!! Most students had McDonalds for dinner anyway!!!! Everyone had an exciting but educational trip to Canberra!!!

Year 6 Canberra Excursion—Continued

liam and harry c



On the 29th November year 6 visited Canberra to discover and learn or recap new things. The activities we did were going to Parliament House, going to the Australian War Memorial, Australian Institute of Sport, going to old Parliament House and exploring Questacon.

The journey to travel to Canberra was 2h and 55 mins and on the way we stopped at Goulburn. After our short lunch break we went on with our journey in our double decker bus while singing songs, talking, some of us sleeping, drawing and playing games.



When we arrived in Canberra we headed straight to our current Parliament House. We had to go through security so they knew we didn't have any forbidden items. While we were there we went to both the house of representatives and senate. When we went to both chambers they were both sitting/in the chamber debating. Then we did a role play of being in the house of reps and debated the bill that everyone in Australia should have a water tank. After that we met Emma Husar our representative for Lindsay. We had a chat with her about parliament and asked her some questions then got back on the bus and drove to the Australian War Memorial.

When we arrived there we had our lunch and then we split up into groups and had our tour. We learnt about how the army got recruits/soldiers and we had a look at the hall of heroes. After that some of us bought from the gift shop.

After, we got back in our bus and drove to our accommodation where we found out our cabins, most had six people and some had four or five. After we freshened up we went to have our dinner at the buffet. Dinner was bread rolls, sausages, chicken and veggies with some watered down cordial.

After dinner we went to the A.I.S or the Australian Institute of Sport to learn about what they do there and why and to have a bit of a play around to get rid of our energy.

When we finished we got back in the bus and travelled back to our cabins. After that we had about 2h before lights out but we had to stay in our cabins. During that time most of us ate lollies, talked, played games. Some people were too loud at night but most of us had a good night sleep so we would have a good day the next day and have lots of energy and fun.

Year 6 Canberra Excursion—Continued

Then in the morning the next day we had to wake up at about 6:30 am so we could get ready for breaky at 7am. After breakfast we drove to old Parliament House.

When we arrived we had a little play out the front in the garden. Then when we went we went inside we watched a little video explaining some things about old Parliament House. Then we went on a little tour and watched a video explaining Democracy. Next we went to a little quiz room where there were some stations with different quizzes about Democracy. The last thing we did at old Parliament House was role playing our own ballot. After that we went outside back to the garden and had our lunch, the bus driver supplied us with water, a sandwich of our choice, a packet of chips and a banana. After we finished we headed off to Questacon.

When we arrived we first went to the gift shop to get it out of the way then we split into groups of six. For most of us that was the first time going to Questacon or Canberra. We travelled all the way to the top and made our way down by going through all the stations. When we were finished we went to the 'play room' and some of us went down the freefall slide. Some of the activities were freefall, speedball speedometer and much more. After that activity we went to our bus to head back to school.

Before we hopped on the bus they told us that we were on our way to Maccasbut 40 mins into our trip we were told that our bus was breaking down to and we wouldn't have time to go to Maccas a lot of our bus we were really looking forward to Maccas which made the majority of the bus sad but we got over it. Some people were quite scared because the bus driver went to the back of the bus and got a fire extinguisher but everything was ok. We travelled on.

We swapped buses about an hour away from home and went on our new bus that wasn't double deckered which was what we weren't used to but it was still fun. On the way home it was much quieter than the other bus because we were watching a movie and some people were talking quietly. We arrived home and saw our parents which was good and also got to see Lachlan who previously hurt himself badly at Goulburn on the way to Canberra.

Year 6 Canberra Excursion—Continued

by Levi C

Waking up at 5:00am, getting dressed into my formal school uniform as slumped as a sloth, dragging myself having no accurate vision due to my current state of mind toward the kitchen to have some Vegemite on toast and then racing in to the car.

Appearing at school to see some others students there having an obviousness of being ecstatic, yet still being very tired. 6:15am the bus arrives and all the students and children are boarding with their luggage. The 'Hopkinsons' bus company, a FIRST CLASS bus, I was impressed.

Many times of bonding and exchanging of secrets and EPIC FORTNITE VICTORY ROYALS. The bus halts to a stop and all the children race to get to the park first to have first pick of what they wish to entertain themselves until they all have to board the bus again for another hours drive to Parliament House. Boarding the bus after much fun, another hour of secrets and EPIC FORTNITE VICTORY ROYALS, we finally arrive at Parliament House and were greeted by our tour guide - Dominic, he introduced us to The Senate and The House of Representatives. He had defined some of the colours for each of the rooms, Green= the colour of a gumtree leaf,

Red= the colour of the rich red soil

We were then greeted by Sacha who took us into a much smaller House of Reps. I was obviously the Prime Minister as I have good looks and great leadership skills. Then Emma Husar had entered the room, she is our representative for our area, she discussed about what she did and her role in Parliament.

At 1:30pm we went from Parliament House to War Memorial for another tour to see our fallen soldiers in battle and impressive 3D art sculptures. We interacted with real artefacts from the WW1.

After this all, the students bolted on to the bus and we headed for our overnight accommodation. Settling in with hiding candy and starting WW3 with the TV remote, everyone had changed their clothes into their casual clothing for dinner and ready for our visit to the A.I.S (Australian Institute of Sport). This is a recount so I have to be truthful, the food was very dodgy.

After 'dinner' we departed and travelled to the A.I.S, where there were many different interactive technology tasks related to sports. Returning to our accommodation we turned on the TV and fought over all the lollies. I was getting on to 11:30pm and Mrs. Rowan told everyone lights out, but that wasn't necessarily the case after 2 hours of 2 boys talking I finally closed my eyes and passed out.

KNOCK, KNOCK!!

"Wake up boys" mumbled Mr. Buchan through the door. James bolted towards the door and opened the door and Mr. Buchan again said

"All right boys wake up!"

We all arose with elegant movements and transformed into our Year 6 sports uniform. All the boys and girls made two lines and made their way towards the breakfast room and once again the food was quite dodgy.

After that we entered the bus once again and made our way to Old Parliament House. This is where we learnt detailed information about the voting process in Australia It was quite an interactive educational experience.

We reunited as a grade and had a game of tip. Soon after, everyone boarded the bus and it took us to our last venue in Canberra - Questacon. Again being greeted by one of the guides. We started from the top and headed towards the bottom with many different scientific activities for all the students to enjoyably participate in. And most likely the grade favourite the 'The Freefall', a steep drop to a slide that carries you to the end of the slide.

After everyone was satisfied with their time at Questacon for the final time we boarded the bus and started making our journey to McDonalds, at least we thought. After I decided to sleep for most of the journey I was awoken by Billy to then realise we had come to a stop due to engine problems, something had malfunctioned and we had to drive to a 7/11 and transfer buses.

Definitely something to remember.

But in the end we watched an amazing movie-

AVENGERS INFINITY WAR,

We all definitely enjoyed our time at Canberra I wish to return to Canberra in the future.

P.S

I never got McDonalds.

P & F News

On behalf of the P&F I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your help and support throughout the year. From baking cakes to counting money, from cooking sausages to selling raffle tickets you are always there to lend a hand....and we could not do it without you so thank you. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

I would also like to personally thank the P&F exec team for their tireless efforts and their never ending enthusiasm...you guys are awesome!

Veronica Neale
P & F President



shutterstock.com - 567687052

School Banking

The final day for school banking this year will be Friday, 14th December 2018. School banking will resume on Friday, 8th February 2019.



Year 6 Canberra Excursion

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.

Dates for Your Diary Term 4 ~ 2018

Friday	7 December	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly (6K Item)
Tuesday	11 December	11:30pm	Year 6 Graduation and Ceremony (Whole School to attend St Nicholas Parish)
Wednesday	12 December		Year 6 Excursion to St Marys Sports Centre
Friday	14 December	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly Year 6 Farewell Disco
Wednesday	19 December		Last day of school for students

Dates for Your Diary Term 1 ~ 2019

Tuesday	29 January	12:30-3:00pm	Staff Development Day Maths Assessment Interviews
Wednesday	30 January	9:00am-4:00pm	Staff Development Day Maths Assessment Interviews
Thursday	31 January	9:00am-4:00pm	Years 1-6 Commence School Maths Assessment Interviews (Kindergarten)
Friday	1 February		Kindergarten Commence School

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 NSW PSSA 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. **The School Sport Australia Championships are held over numerous days that may include weekend.**

Please note the following information:

- The Diocesan trials, MacKillop trials and NSW PSSA Championships are held on school days.
- 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 "REPRESENTATIVE SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "INFORMATION & REGISTRATION PROCESS".

2019 Basketball & Tennis NOMINATIONS close Wednesday 31st October 2018

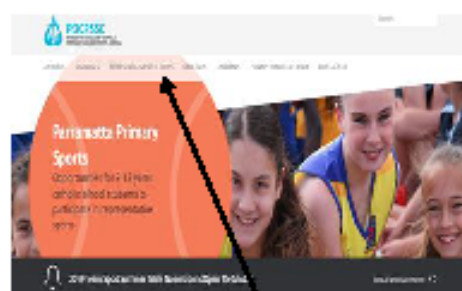
All other sports will open on Monday 19th November and close Friday 1st February 2019.

Kind Regards,

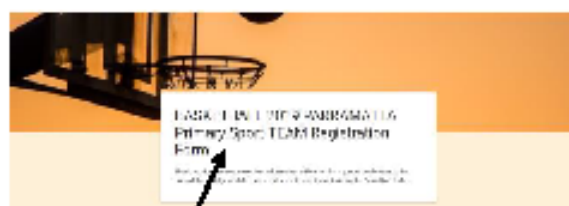
Margaret Thornton

Teaching Educator Primary Sport ~ CEO Parramatta

WEBSITE: www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au



Click on "REPRESENTATIVE SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "INFORMATION & REGISTRATION PROCESS".



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



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

2019 Team Sport Trials

Parramatta Diocese 2019 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 2786

Tel (02) 9677 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 2019 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2018 and Term One in 2019. 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 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Basketball	Open boys & girls	20 th November 2018	Wednesday 31 st October 2018
Cricket	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Diving	10/11yrs girls & boys & 12/13yrs girls & boys	Term One 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2019
Football (Soccer)	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Golf	Open boys & girls	Term Three 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2019
Hockey	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Netball	Open girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Rugby League	Open boys & 11yrs boys - NB. No State team selected for 11 yrs	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Rugby Union	Open boys	Term Two 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Softball	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019
Tennis	Open boys & girls	21 st November 2018	Wednesday 31 st October 2018
Touch	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019

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 "INFORMATION & REGISTRATION PROCESS". **Each sport has a different registration criteria.**

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2019 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.

KIDS CAN ACT – HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS JANUARY 2019

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE EARLYBIRD DISCOUNT RATE

MON 14TH JAN SPRINGWOOD	TUES 15TH JAN SPRINGWOOD	WED 16TH JAN SOUTH PENRITH	THURS 17TH JAN SOUTH PENRITH	FRI 18TH JAN SPRINGWOOD
8.30- 1.30PM The Magic Glasses	9.00 -2.00PM The Day The Toys Came To Life	9.00- 3.00PM Where On Earth Are We? 1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie	8.30-2.30PM The Cake Shop 1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie	9.00-2.00PM The Mystery Of The Secret Door
1.30-5.00PM Mime It	2.00-5.00PM Drama Fun 101		2.30-5.00PM Puppetry	2.00-5.00PM Storytelling Magic
MON 21ST JAN SOUTH PENRITH	TUES 22ND JAN SOUTH PENRITH	WED 23RD JAN SPRINGWOOD	THURS 24TH JAN SOUTH PENRITH	FRI 25TH JAN SPRINGWOOD
8.30- 1.30PM The Magic Glasses	9.00-2.00PM The Mystery Of The Secret Door	9.00- 3.00PM Where On Earth Are We? 1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie	8.30-1.30PM The Day The Toys Came To Life	8.30-2.30PM The Cake Shop 1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie
1.30-5.00PM Mime It	2.00-5.00PM Storytelling Magic		1.30-5.00PM Drama Fun 101	2.30-5.00PM Puppetry

Bookings & info www.kidscanact.com.au Cathie 0414 475 158

*The owner reserves the right to cancel workshops if they do not have a viable number of children enrolled.

KIDS CAN ACT

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

THE MAGIC GLASSES (4-14yrs)

Where did these come from? What happens when you look through the "magic glasses"? What do you see? What powers do you gain? Where do they take you? Let your imagination go crazy! Try the Magic Glasses and see what adventures they take you on.

MIME IT! (4-14yrs)

Students will learn how to hit the "mute button" and focus on actions rather than sound to portray their story. Actions speak louder than words.

THE DAY THE TOYS CAME TO LIFE (4-12yrs)

Is it a dream? Is this really happening? One magical night the toys come to life and have their own ideas how life should be run. Come join us for this magical adventure.

DRAMA FUN 101 (4-12yrs)

Have a great time trying out some fabulous group and individual drama techniques and games. Learn while having fun.

WHERE ON EARTH ARE WE? 1,2,3 LET'S MAKE A MOVIE (5-14yrs)

We were just going on an adventure. How could this happen? What went wrong? Start at the end and then work out how it all happened. Together we will work out the journey and how we got here! Students will work on character development, story structure and how to work as a team. Now make the movie!

THE CAKE SHOP 1,2,3 LET'S MAKE A MOVIE (5-14yrs)

Have you been down to the cake shop lately? There's something weird going on. The cakes are amazing, but people are different afterwards. What is the baker's special ingredient and what affect is this food is having on the town? Create your own town of people, learn storytelling & characterisation. Now make the movie!

PUPPETRY (5-12yrs)

Children are naturally curious and communicate more easily with a puppet on their hand, giving them confidence to express their ideas and feelings. The children will have great fun as they learn how to manipulate and try different types of puppets.

THE SECRET DOOR (6-14yrs)

After moving into a new house, you discover a secret room, filled with all kinds of weird things. You see another door - when you open it there's a long tunnel, leading into darkness. Grab a torch and start walking... Where does it lead? What adventures will you go on? Who or what will you meet along the way?

STORYTELLING MAGIC (6-14yrs)

Stories inform us, delight us, make us laugh, cry and entertain us. Come learn how to tell and share a great story and listen to others.

Bookings & prices www.kidscanact.com.au Cathie 0414 475 158