



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.*

Our school is a great school, however we are not perfect and we are always looking for possible ways to improve.

One area for potential improvement that the staff had identified in 2017 is pastoral care at St Mary MacKillop. Pastoral care is not an easy concept to define but our school policy captures it through elements of “the total care of the students”, “A belief in the dignity of the person” and helping “our students become thoughtful and self-directed people”.

With the wisdom of the supportive partnership of school, parents and parish, we have captured the voice of our community through a series of surveys this term. We have also engaged some professional coaches to advise the school in ways to create improved benefits from our pastoral care policy and practice.

We recently sent home to all families a ‘Restorative Practices’ Parent Survey. The response from our parents was very supportive and affirmative of the work we do and also the commitment to the partnership – we had over 70 parent responses.

A few of the responses that have raised questions for us to explore were:

My child feels safe and listened to at school;

69% strongly agree 30% agree to some extent 1% disagree

My child is developing a capacity to repair relationships when things go wrong;

51% strongly agree 49% agree to some extent 0% disagree

Children and families are treated with respect at our school;

80% strongly agree 20% agree to some extent 0% disagree

One element of the challenge ahead for us is to create learning opportunities for our whole community that will move our experiences closer to everyone strongly agreeing with these statements. I look forward to the journey ahead.

### Staffing News

We have recently concluded our second round of recruitment for staff in 2019. We will welcome six new faces into our classroom teaching roles for next year. I look forward to introducing them to the community later in the year once class groups have been determined. Also PE classes will look a bit different for the remainder of the year. Year 1, 4 and 5 will be participating in gymnastics. Mrs Middleton will also be finishing the year early and Ms Brittany Carey and Mrs Janine Walker will take classes for the final five weeks of the term. We wish Mrs Middleton all the best for the future.

For the remainder of the term Mrs Paine will be on maternity leave. In her absence, Miss Gillespie will increase her teaching load on 5PC to 4 days a week and Mrs Janine Walker will teach the class on the remaining six Mondays. We wish Mrs Paine and her family a blessed time as they welcome the newest member into their family.

Together We Grow

Mr Scott Buchan  
Principal

### Remembrance Day

Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, is Remembrance Day (also known as Poppy Day or Armistice Day). Remembrance Day is a solemn day observed since the end of World War I (1914 – 1918) to honour members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty. Remembrance Day is observed on 11<sup>th</sup> November to recall the end of hostilities of World War I on that date in 1918. Hostilities formally ended *at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.* Each year we observe one minute silence at 11 am on the 11<sup>th</sup> November, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

The red remembrance poppy has become a familiar emblem of Remembrance Day due to the poem "In Flanders Fields". These poppies bloomed across some of the worst battlefields of Flanders in World War I, their brilliant red colour an appropriate symbol for the blood spilled in the war.



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We shall remember them"*

### 2018 Christmas Celebration

***Date for your diary: 6:30pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December - on the school grounds.***

More details to follow shortly

Mrs Leesa Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

### Basketball Gala Day

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Congratulations to all our students who participated in our Basketball Gala Day. The students did really well!! More wins than losses and I want to compliment all students who attended for their excellent sportsmanship in each and every game. They represented our school superbly! A special thanks to our coaches and scorers who helped out.

Miss Nicole Jones



## P & F News

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Our first ever Dads and Daughters night held on Friday 26th October was a huge success and brought rave reviews from many of the girls that it was the best night ever. I think the dads even enjoyed themselves too!!

***Don't forget the infants disco tonight in the hall 5.30-6.30 \$5 payable on entry***



P & F AGM Tuesday 20th November 6.30-8.30pm in the school hall....everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Year 6 Farewell is fast approaching...Friday 14th December in the school hall. Keep an eye out for a note coming home with all the details.

Veronica Neale  
P & F President



## Environment Team

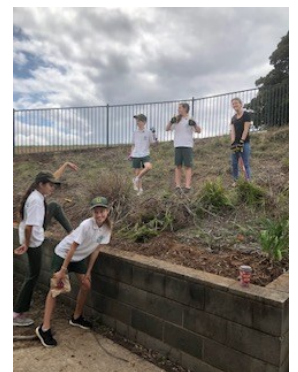
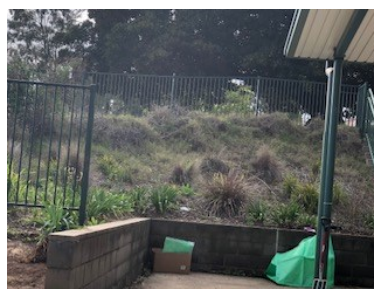
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Over the past 3 weeks the Year 6 Environment Team has partnered up with Bunnings and Mrs Sykes to do a gardening project outside of the hall.

We started on Tuesday of Week One when Mrs Sykes and some other Year 6 parents came up to help us pull out weeds and other dead plants from the garden. We would like to thank our parent helpers for dedicating their time to make our school a safe and welcoming community for all.

Over the next few weeks of the term, we will be planting new and healthy plants to finish up our gardening project.

Regards, The Year 6 Environment Team.





## Sport News

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The Infants Tabloid Sports Carnival was held here at school on Thursday 1st November for Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 students. The day was a huge success and lots of fun as the students moved through a variety of sporting stations. The students participated in a running race, dancing, basketball shoot outs, parachute fun, obstacle course, quoits, cup and ball catching and team games. All students cooled down with a Zooper Dooper at the conclusion of the carnival and many were asking "Does the Carnival really have to be over?!"

An ENORMOUS THANK YOU to our wonderful parent helpers who were hands on, enthusiastic and encouraging to our students. Thank you to Nathan King, Catherine King, Chloe Jenkins, Alison Randall, Ying Yu, Kylie Beazley, Sonya Peters, Breanna Martin and Christine Vella. You are AMAZING!

A big thank you to our Infants Teachers, too, for keeping up with the students and joining in all the fun. A special mention to Mrs McDonald, Mrs Paine, Mrs Parkes and Mrs Woodhead for joining us also.

We can't wait for next years carnival already!



A special mention to Oliver Nekic, Ms Tanya Davies had published the following about Oliver and his swimming achievements:

**Ms Tanya Davies (Mulgoa-Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Women, and Minister for Ageing) (13:35):** Although he has only been swimming competitively for 18 months, Glenmore Park student **Oliver Nekic** has shown he is a future star of the pool. Recently Oliver competed in the Catholic Schools Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival representing his school, St Mary Mackillop Primary School. At the carnival, he finished first place in seven events-a spectacular result that saw Oliver break three zone records and be named Junior Boys Aged Champion. Last year, Oliver was selected to represent his school in the 50-metre freestyle event at the New South Wales State Championships and the Catholic Schools State Swimming Championships. I thank Oliver's parents, Josip and Rachel, for their unwavering support of him and I congratulate Oliver on his exceptional achievements.

Maryanne McNally  
Sport Co Ordinator

## Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2018

Thursday	8 November	2:00pm-2:45pm 5:30pm-6:30pm	Kindergarten 2019 Playgroup Session 3 P & F K-2 Infants Disco
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9 November</b>		<b>Staff Development Day</b> <b>No School Today</b>
Thursday	15 November	2:00pm-2:45pm	Year 5 Camp to Yarramundi Year 4 Scenic World Excursion Kindergarten 2019 Playgroup Session 4
Friday	16 November	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 5 Camp to Yarramundi Year 4 Mass Whole School Assembly
Tuesday	20 November	6:30pm –8:30pm	P & F AGM
Thursday	22 November	9:00am-11:00am	Kindergarten 2019 Orientation
Friday	23 November	9:15am	Year 2 Liturgy
Thursday	29 November		Year 6 Excursion to Canberra
Friday	30 November	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 6 Excursion to Canberra Year 5 Mass Whole School Assembly (1E Item)
Wednesday	5 December	6:30pm	Christmas Concert
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
Thursday	14 December	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly
Wednesday	19 December		Last day of school for students

## Building Child Safe Communities - Forms For All Volunteers

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'Building Child Safe Communities' is an initiative developed by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta that enhances our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students in our care. It is now a requirement that all volunteers complete an online undertaking form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering at schools. This undertaking form also seeks to determine the suitability of volunteers and contractors by requiring them to declare that they do not have a criminal history involving children.

**Volunteers** – please access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).

Then click on '**Volunteer Form**' (halfway down page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are volunteering.

If you would like to be a parent helper at sports carnivals, reading groups, gala days, excursions etc you will need to complete the form.

## School Fees

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Thank you again for your patience with any issues you may have experienced with school fees while CEDP have transitioned the management of school fees.

If you have not yet received your school fee statement or have requested a direct debit arrangement which has not yet commenced could you please contact the school office on 02 4724 3200.

## School Banking

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School banking day is Friday. School banking encourages your child to develop regular savings habits by giving them the opportunity to deposit money into their Youthsaver account at school each week. If you are interested in school banking and your child does not already have a Youthsaver account you can apply online at [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) or visit any CommBank branch.



## School Contact Information

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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**.



## Phone Number Change

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.



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](mailto:mthornton@parra.catholic.edu.au)

[www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au](http://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 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Basketball	Open boys & girls	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2018
Cricket	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Golf	Open boys & girls	Term Three 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2019
Hockey	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Netball	Open girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Rugby League	Open boys & 11yrs boys - NB. No State team selected for 11 yrs	Term One 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Rugby Union	Open boys	Term Two 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Softball	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019
Tennis	Open boys & girls	21 <sup>st</sup> November 2018	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2018
Touch	Open boys & girls	Term One 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> 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](http://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.



# 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](http://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 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

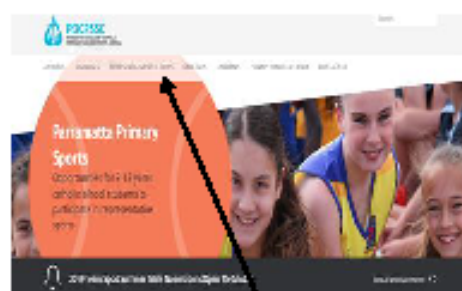
All other sports will open on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November and close Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.

Kind Regards,

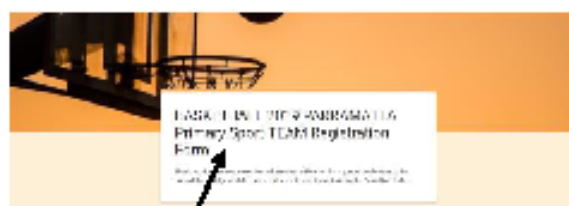
*Margaret Thornton*

Teaching Educator Primary Sport ~ CEO Parramatta

WEBSITE: [www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au](http://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.