



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.

Firstly, I would like to welcome everyone back together for this our final school term of 2019. I hope that the holidays were a time for your family to spend quality time together and make memories that will last well beyond the first few weeks of school.

Last Thursday I had the pleasure of attending the Confirmation ceremonies for our St Nicholas of Myra Parish. Across the two ceremonies we had a large number of students from our school participate and make their final Sacrament of Initiation in the church. As I sat there with Mrs Gillard and Mrs Rowan amongst our families and children, it occurred to me that here was a living, breathing example of our school vision statement brought to life. Christ was at the centre of what was happening, the children were being called to learn about and exercise the gifts given to them by God at their birth and baptism and it all happened with the loving support of home, the school and the parish. I was immensely proud of our children but also of our community that it provides moments such as these for our purpose and vision to be revealed and lived.

Sundays Gospel from Luke added to this feeling for me. The parable that was shared, stressed the need for hope-filled prayer, the kind that does not lose heart in the midst of opposition and difficulty. As I watch the news and read the internet, it is obvious that the world of our children is one that is frustrated and restless. Seeing them shine and rise above all of that last Thursday reminded me that the power of a quality community faith filled community is greater than all the external unrest around us.

Tonight I am travelling to Parramatta to watch the Diocesan Creative Arts Eisteddfod. I would like to congratulate the seventeen students from our school who will perform at this event and the two teachers – Miss Carey and Miss Gillespie – who have taught and choreographed their dance routine. Well done team.

Staffing News

Over the last few weeks of Term 3 we had been advertising, interviewing and recruiting staff for the 2020 school year.

Next year we will welcome Mrs Michelle Jarrett onto our teaching team. Mrs Jarrett joins us from the St Patrick's Blacktown community. She brings a range of experience, gifts and talents to our school and I look forward to introducing her to our community later in Term 4.

Together We Grow
Mr Scott Buchan - Principal

Leaving St Mary MacKillop?

As part of our enrolment policy and Catholic Education Office guidelines the Diocesan Tuition Fee and School Building Levy are annual fees that are billed in terms 1, 2 and 3. A pro rata fee based on weeks enrolled for the year is made for students entering the School part way during a term.

If a student leaves the School during a term, no refund will be made in respect of the remaining portion of that term. Other School Based Fees for items such as camps, excursions, materials or technology may be charged to a student's account and are payable under the same conditions as Diocesan Fees.

A term's notice in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable.

Monique Kearins
Finance Secretary

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Last Thursday night (17th October) many of our Stage 3 students received the Sacrament of Confirmation - the final Sacrament of Initiation into the Catholic Church. Fr Peter Williams spoke to the children about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and encouraged the children to use these gifts in their life. A warm thank you to Colleen Nicholas (Sacramental Coordinator), the Year Five teachers and parents for preparing the children so well.

Congratulations to the following students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday 17th October:
Emily B, Marie B, Riley B, Emma B, Jake C, Emma C, Maddison E, Kymberley F, Taylah G, Abbi G, Stefania G, Myer J, Cameron J, Jayden J, Georgia K, Summer K, Gabrielle L, Darcy L, Jenna Mc, Siobhan Mc, Harrison M, Jasmyn M, Jonathan M, Chanelle N, Isaac O, Melinda P, Alex P, Rylee R, Elizabeth R, Sara R, Amber S, Amelia T, Chantelle W and Cooper W

These children have been graced with the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit and are now full members of the Catholic Church.



October - World Mission Month



World Mission Month is celebrated every year in every country wherever there are Christians committed to building a better world for all of God's people, a world where everyone has all they need to live a dignified and fulfilling life.

Jesus' mission of creating a world where all can live a fully dignified life is still far from completion. Therefore, the whole month of October has been dedicated to reflecting on the central mission of the Church to help all Christians in their commitment to Christ's mission of love, mercy, forgiveness, peace and justice for the world.

Missionary activity is, fundamentally, a going out of oneself in love, a reaching out to see God in everyone and to share God's love with each person we meet – especially our poor and marginalised.

The theme of World Mission Month this year is “Do not fear, for I am with you” with a focus on supporting the work of the church in Ghana.

Catholic Mission aims to help students learn more about the issues of justice and how we can all be involved with global mission, and participate in this wonderful work of sharing the loving grace of God throughout the world.

Every year, as part of the Parramatta Diocesan Religious Education program, every grade in the school completes a 2-3 week mission unit at the start of Term 4 to learn more about Catholic Mission.

Who is Catholic Mission?

Catholic Mission is the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. Locally and globally, they answer the call to love God and to love our neighbour, and work to establish the Reign of God through building communities of missionary disciples who share their faith by proclaiming the Word, serving people in need, acting for justice and creation, and adopting child-focused, community-based development programs.

Compelled by the message, life and love of Jesus Christ, Catholic Mission forms Australians for mission and raises funds for mission – in Australia and around the world. This enables heroic missionaries to reach out to help children and communities in need, and provide vital training for seminarians and other young Church leaders. Catholic Mission operates in over 160 countries to support initiatives in 1,100 dioceses, including remote Australia. Needs are identified by local Catholics, to give people the opportunity for a full, enriched life – physically and spiritually – regardless of race, stigma, religion or gender.

Founded in 1822 by a lay single woman named Pauline Jaricot, today Catholic Mission is the Pope's own mission organisation. Catholic people are called to give priority to Catholic Mission as the agency provides essential funding for the Church in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and parts of South America.

World Mission Month Celebration: Whole School Liturgy and Fundraiser

To celebrate World mission month we will be having a **whole school Liturgy and “CRAZY SOCK DAY” on Friday 1st November.**

The Liturgy will be at 9:15am and all in our community are warmly invited to attend. On this day *all students are asked to wear crazy socks with their school uniform and donate a gold coin or two to help the children in Ghana. We look forward to a bright and colourful day, whilst we help to “sock it to poverty!”*



Praying The Rosary

Traditionally the month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary and this has been a tradition in the Catholic Church for a long time. Catholics pray the Rosary because it is a powerful prayer to God through His mother, Mary.

The word ‘rosary’ comes from Latin and means a garland of roses, the rose being one of the flowers used to symbolize the Virgin Mary. It is recognized as a truly biblical form of prayer—after all, the prayers that comprise it come mainly from the Bible.

During the month of October there will be a school focus on the Rosary. The students in Years 3-6 will focus on learning and praying The Rosary during whole school prayer time at 2pm on a Friday afternoon.

Whilst we have Rosary beads at school the children are encouraged to bring in their own set of beads to personally enhance their prayer experience and to foster the prayerful practice in their own homes.

History of the Rosary

Over the centuries the Church has always honoured Mary, the Blessed Mother of God. Praying the Rosary is one of the many ways in which we do this. According to tradition, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in a rose garden, holding a garland of flowers. It is thought the Rosary originates from this.

How to Pray the Rosary

The Rosary is a special type of prayer called a ‘meditation’. In this prayer, we use our hands, our lips, our minds and our hearts to help us think about Jesus and Mary as we move our fingers along the Rosary beads.

When we pray the Rosary we reflect on a set of five ‘mysteries’. Each ‘mystery’ focuses on a special event in the life of Jesus and Mary. There are twenty mysteries in total (five Joyful, five Sorrowful, five Glorious & five Luminous). Each mystery is described in this leaflet.

To begin:

1. Make the Sign of the Cross and pray the Apostles Creed.
2. Pray an Our Father, three Hail Marys and a Glory Be.
3. First mystery: Name the mystery, then pray an Our Father (red beads), ten Hail Marys (brown beads), the Glory Be and Fatima prayer - a decade.
4. Repeat for each mystery until all five have been prayed (or as many as you have chosen to pray).
5. Finish with the Hail Holy Queen. A short Litany to Our Lady may also be prayed at the end.



The Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Our Father

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the Fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, and save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are in most need of Your mercy.

Leesa Gillard
Religious Education Co Ordinator

Sport News

Will Z from Year 6 has spent the last week representing MacKillop in the NSW PSSA State Boys Cricket Carnival in Wollongong. 168 boys played off against each other in 14 teams throughout the week. Will was part of the MacKillop team, which won 3 out of their 4 games, finishing up 4th place overall. Wow, what an achievement. Will really enjoyed the opportunity to compete at this level in Cricket and we would like to recognise his outstanding achievements this year. Good luck next year Will, we look forward to hearing your future successes.

Sports Team

Miss Nicole Jones



P & F News

Infants Disco

K-2 are invited to come along to the infants disco on Thursday 7th November 5.30-6.30pm. \$5 entry fee payable on the night.

Mufti-Day

Stay tuned for more details of our mufti day on Thursday 14th November

MUFTI DAY

AGM

Everyone is invited to attend the P&F AGM on Monday 25th November at 7pm. There will be drinks and nibbles as we recap the amazing fundraising efforts of the school community this year and look in more detail at the grounds beautification that we have been raising funds for.



St Mary MacKillop Primary School Fete 2020

The St Mary MacKillop Parents and Friends Association would like to give you the opportunity to support our school community at our fete.

Be a part of this wonderful celebration in 2020 where we bring together the whole community for a family- friendly day. If you are interested in sponsoring our School Fete, please get in contact with Catherine Watson at smmppandf@gmail.com and you'll be sent a sponsorship proposal.

Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2019

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Friday	25 October	2:20pm 2:00pm-3:00pm	Whole School Assembly—5H Item Second Hand Uniform Shop Open
Thursday	31 October	2:00pm-2:45pm	Kindergarten 2020 Playgroup Session No. 2
Friday	1st November	9:15am	Whole School Liturgy Crazy Sock Day NO ASSEMBLY TODAY
Thursday	7 November	2:00pm-2:45pm	Kindergarten 2020 Playgroup Session No. 3
Friday	8 November	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly
Thursday—Friday	14-15 November		Year 5 Camp
Thursday	14 November	2:00pm-2:45pm	Kindergarten 2020 Playgroup Session No. 4 P & F Mufti Day
Friday	15 November	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly
Thursday	21 November	9am	2020 Kindergarten Orientation
Friday	22 November	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 3 Liturgy Whole School Assembly 5J Item
Thursday-Friday	28-29 November		Year 6 Camp

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.

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