



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.*

This week I had a panel of Principals and one of our System Director's spend a day at the school. The purpose of their visit was to collect for me a wide range of views from across our community to inform me about how my leadership is working and how the performance of the school is going. This is a normal process for principals in our diocese and occurs about every 5 years for us.

I want to acknowledge and thank all of those who participated on the day. These included a parent group, a student group, Fr Joe and many of our staff at the school. It was a very affirming result for me and I am grateful to be so generously supported by this community in the leadership of the school. I look forward to the next 5 years of leading the community in delivering our mission together.

I have been invited to attend a special occasion in our parish on Saturday night. Father Joe will be formally welcomed into the role of Parish Priest by Bishop Vincent. These occasions are significant moments and I want to ensure that Father Joe is supported by our community and understands that we value him. If you and your family are also able to attend it would be wonderful. I have included the invitation from the parish below.

On Saturday 9th November at the 6 pm Mass, Fr Joe will be formally installed as the Parish Priest of St Nicholas by the Very Rev. Bishop Vincent Long. Please keep this date free to join us on this special occasion of our Parish Community and in the life of Fr Joe. To stay up to date with the parish news you can find it at <https://stnicholasofmyra.org.au/>

### Staffing News

Our school will have a further change to our staffing in 2020. At the start of next year, Mrs Laffan will be taking a block of Long Service Leave that runs into Term 1. When Mrs Laffan contacted me to request Leave, we also discussed the thirty two years of wonderful service that she has given the teaching profession, this community, its staff and its students.

Mrs Laffan let me know that her intention is to retire from full time teaching at the end of her block of leave and will not return next year. This news was both happy and sad for me. I am happy for Mrs Laffan and her family as she begins this next chapter of her life but sad for our community who will miss her so very much.

I will announce in coming weeks the arrangements to farewell Mrs Laffan at the end of this term.

Together We Grow  
Mr Scott Buchan - Principal

ST MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SOUTH PENRITH  
**Keeping In Touch**



## Mufti Day Amendment

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In an earlier KIT, Thursday 14th November was advertised as a Mufti Day. Please note that this date is no longer a Mufti Day. Instead, the students were invited to wear crazy socks to school last Friday, 1st November as a fundraising initiative for Catholic Mission Australia. We thank you for the generosity you showed on this day and for getting in the spirit of crazy socks. Thursday 14th November will be a normal school uniform day for Year 3 - 6 and a Sports uniform day for K - 2 due to the Infants Tabloid Sports Carnival. Thank you.

## Religious Education News

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### October - World Mission Month



### World Mission - Crazy Sock Day, Friday 1st November

Last Friday, as the culmination of the students' religious education mission units, our school community celebrated World Mission Month by having a crazy sock day to raise money for Catholic Mission. Catholic Mission is a charity organisation which supports children who are vulnerable and in desperate need throughout the world. This year the money raised, by all students in Catholic schools across Australia, will support the children in Ghana. As a school community we raised \$656 and on behalf of Catholic Mission, I thank you for your kind donations. If anyone has any further donations these can be forwarded to the school office.



### Remembrance Day

Monday, 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 a 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.



### 2019 Whole School Christmas Celebration: 9:15am Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December

On Thursday, the 5th of December we will gather as a school community to celebrate the Season of Christmas. This year, we will celebrate a scripture based, joyous and prayerful celebration of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus.

More details to follow shortly.

Mrs Leesa Gillard  
Religious Education Coordinator

## **2020 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials are OPEN**

ALL 2020 Team Sport Trials are OPEN, however, the Summer Sports of BASKETBALL & TENNIS registrations close on Monday 11th November as these trials will be held in November 2019.

All other sports trials will be held in Term One & Two in 2020.

Any Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2020 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials.

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 2020 be invited to attend.

Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports: AFL, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League (11yrs & Opens), Rugby Union, Softball, Tennis & Touch football. The sports of Diving & Golf will be held at the MacKillop level.

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed via the website [www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au)

This online form is an EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for the 2020 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria, therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

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

### **INFANTS TABLOID SPORTS CARNIVAL**

The Infants (Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2) Tabloid Sports Carnival will be held here at school on Thursday 14th November from 9:00am - 12:30pm. All students K - 2 will participate in this fun filled carnival, where they will develop skills in throwing and catching, athletics, dancing, skipping, team work, positive sportsmanship and coordination. The students are asked to please wear their full SPORTS uniform and school hat. Students should wear sunscreen and pack extra water for the day. If you would like to be a parent helper, please return the note that was sent home last week or your child's classroom teacher. We are looking forward to a fun day of fitness!

**Mrs Maryanne Churchill and Miss Nicole Jones**  
**Sport Coordinators**

## Year 3 Excursion to Blue Mountains

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On Thursday 24th October, Year 3 went on an excursion to the Blue Mountains National Park in Katoomba. 3H's Ranger was Ranger Paul and 3M had Ranger Cathy. We had a lot of fun in the dry, dusty and dirty bush!

First we had an Aboriginal Ranger named Mel talk to us about how Aboriginal people used to live in the bush. Then we had morning tea and went into the bush for a day.

Next we explored in the bush and Ranger Paul showed us some native bush tucker. Some of us tried the bush tucker and some of us liked the native bush tucker. The first bite was ok, but the second and third weren't great! We walked a little further and Ranger Paul showed us how to find and use natural sanitizer.

We kept walking, still exploring many amazing plants and finally getting our first sight of The Three Sisters. Ranger Paul showed us a Bower Bird's nest which was very blue and purple.

We had an amazing day and we learnt a lot of new things.

By Amalia S and Zarah P



**AGM**

On Monday 25th November at 7pm we will be holding our P&F AGM in the school hall. 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. We would love for you all to come along and enjoy getting to know everyone as we thank you all for your support in 2019.

All executive positions of the P&F will be declared vacant and elections for these positions will take place.

**FOLLOW THE P&F**

Make sure you like the P&F Facebook page to be kept up to date with all the exciting things going on!!

<https://www.facebook.com/smmppf/>

Veronica Neal  
P & F President

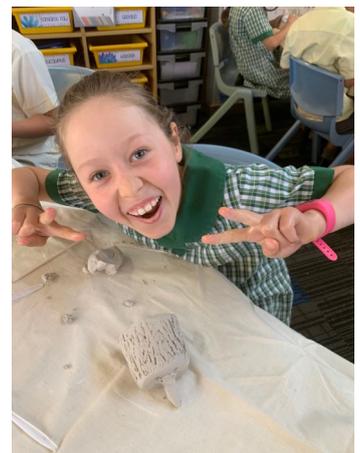
**Year 3 Clay Incursion**

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In Year 3 at St Mary MacKillop we had an incursion on Thursday the 7th November. We made Australian native animals with clay. Some children made koalas, emus, dingos, echidnas and many more. 3H made their animals from 9.00am to 10.45am and we had smiles. 3M were making their animals from 11.30am until 1.30pm. Lauren and Sarah from the Penrith Regional Art Gallery helped us make our animals. We used a spoon, fork, paddle pop stick, bamboo pointy sticks, our fingers and water to mould the clay into our animals. First they showed us some sculptures then they gave us the clay and we started working on our chosen animal. It was one of our best days at school!

If it wasn't for our wonderful teachers and the lovely ladies from the Penrith Regional Art Gallery we wouldn't have had this great day.

Ben B and Giacomo C



## Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2019

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Thursday	7 November	2:00pm-2:45pm	Kindergarten 2020 Playgroup Session No. 3
Friday	8 November	9:15am 2:20pm	Year 2 Liturgy Whole School Assembly
Thursday—Friday	14-15 November		Year 5 Camp
Thursday	14 November	9:00am-12:30pm 2:00pm-2:45pm	Infants Tabloid Sports Carnival Kindergarten 2020 Playgroup Session No. 4
Friday	15 November	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly
Wednesday	20 November	1:30pm 6:00pm	Creative Arts Showcase (Afternoon Session) Creative Arts Showcase (Evening Session)
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
Thursday	5 December	9:15am	Christmas Celebration
Friday	6 December	6:30pm	Whole School Assembly—6M Item Year 6 Farewell
Tuesday	10 December	11:30am	Year 6 Mass & Ceremony at St Nicholas of Myra



# 2020 Team Sport Trials

## Parramatta Diocese 2020 Information For Parents of **current Year 4 and Year 5 students**

**Registration window open**

Dear Parents,

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2020 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2019 and in 2020. 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 2020 be invited to attend.** To facilitate this, Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports:

Sport	Age Group	Trial Date	Nominations Open	Registration closing date
AFL	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Basketball	<b>Open boys &amp; girls</b>	<b>19th November 2019</b>	Open 28 Oct 2019	<b>Monday 11th November 2019</b>
Cricket	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Divling	10/11yrs & 12/13yrs girls & boys	Term One 2020	<b>Nominations Open in 2020</b>	Registration via C3SS in 2020
Football (Soccer)	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Golf	Open boys & girls	Term Three 2020	<b>Nominations Open in 2020</b>	Registration via C3SS in 2020
Hockey	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Netball	Open girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Rugby League	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Rugby League	11 yrs boys & girls NB. No State team selected for 11 yrs	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Rugby Union	Open boys	May 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Softball	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020
Tennis	<b>Open boys &amp; girls</b>	<b>22nd November 2019</b>	Open 28 Oct 2019	<b>Monday 11th November 2019</b>
Touch	Open boys & girls	Feb – Mar 2020	Open 28 Oct 2019	Thursday 6th February 2020

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website [www.primarysportpama.catholic.edu.au](http://www.primarysportpama.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 2020 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.*

**\$10.00** trialing fee is payable **to your school if your child has been approved and confirmed to attend the Parramatta Diocesan Trials.**



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta

# 2020 Team Sport Trials

## Parramatta Diocese 2020 Information For Parents of **current Year 4 and Year 5 students**

*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. Discretion can be sought.*

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 NSWPSA 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 NSWPSA 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 NSWPSA 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 NSWPSA 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.primarysportpara.catholic.edu.au](http://www.primarysportpara.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".**

**SUMMER SPORTS NOMINATIONS for the sports of Basketball & Tennis close Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

**ALL OTHER SPORTS NOMINATIONS close Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

Information regarding the team sport trials can be found on the Primary Sport website [www.primarysportpara.catholic.edu.au](http://www.primarysportpara.catholic.edu.au) and the [Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese Facebook](#).

Good luck to all athletes as they progress through the School Sports Pathway.

Kind Regards,

*Margaret Thornton*

Teaching Educator Primary Sport ~ CEO Parramatta  
WEBSITE: [www.primarysportpara.catholic.edu.au](http://www.primarysportpara.catholic.edu.au)  
FACEBOOK: Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese



Parents Representative Council

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## CYBER SAFETY CHALLENGING TODAY'S YOUTH

Our Speaker will help parents understand the modern day challenges facing our young people within the digital world. Everything that they write, post and send can be traced and will remain there forever. Learn how parents can protect their kids from online risks. Sexts, Texts and Selfies are a concern for any parent. Learn how to give your child the skills, knowledge and strategies to use the internet in a safe, smart and responsible way.



Cyber safety, Sexts, Texts, Selfies, Pornography, Bulling and Online Predators.



Our guest speaker for the evening is:

**School Liaison  
Officer NSW Police**

Register FREE now: [www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)

**SEATS ARE STRICKLY LIMITED TO 100 SO REGISTER EARLY!!**



**Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm (2 hours)**  
(PRC General Meeting - will be held prior to guest speaker)  
**Institute of Mission (downstairs meeting room)**

**Flushcombe Rd & Marion St, Blacktown NSW 2148**

Light supper and refreshments will be provided, and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

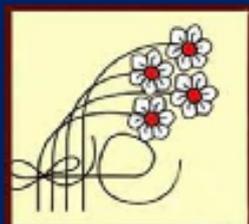
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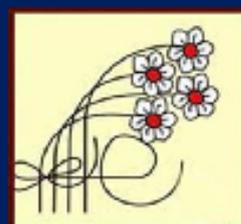


THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 SPONSOR

**Floral Expressions**

For details on the School fundraising program

Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116



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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1-877-ALRG-TIP (257-4847)

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