Dear Parents and Caregivers,

2013 St Mary MacKillop Staff

Early Stage 1:
Kindergarten: KD - Mrs Elizabeth Devlin and Mrs Kimberley Mathewson (Wednesday), KP - Miss Deborah Parker

Stage 1:
Year 1  1B - Mrs Julie Brigden
       1L - Mrs Leonie Mitchell
Year 2  2G - Mrs Leesa Gillard and Mrs Kimberley Mathewson (Friday)
       2M - Ms Connie Mulders
       2P - Mrs Rachel Paine

Stage 2:
Year 3  3M - Mr Darren McErlain
       3F - Mrs Charmain Floody and Mrs Kimberley Mathewson (Thursday)
Year 4  4L - Mrs Chris Laffan
       4W - Mrs Ros Wheaton

Stage 3:
Year 5  5M - Mrs Margaret Meehan and Mrs Cathy Parkes (Wednesday)
       5R - Mrs Margaret Rowan
Year 6  6C - Mrs Renee Cutajar
       6M - Miss Maryanne McNally

Teacher/Librarian: Mrs Maree Eisenhuth (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
Library Assistant: Mrs Marina Napoli

Learning Support: Mrs Michelina Bizzanelli (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday)
                 Mrs Kelly Gray (Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday)
                 Mr Steve Cauchi
                 Mrs Marina Napoli
                 Mrs Judy Inskip

RFF: Mrs Maree Eisenhuth Library & IT Skills (Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday)
     Mr Tim Martin (Tuesday)
     Mr Tim Dickinson (Wednesday)
     Mrs Cathy Parkes CAPA (Thursday)

Leadership Team:
Principal: Mr Michael Siciliano
Assistant Principal: Mr Steve Cauchi
Acting Religious Co-ordinator: Mrs Leesa Gillard
Stage Coordinators: Mrs Elizabeth Devlin - Early Stage1/Stage 1
                    Mr Steve Cauchi - Stage 2
                    Mrs Margaret Meehan – Stage 3
Coordinator 1: Mrs Margaret Rowan

Leadership Team Release: Mrs Cathy Parkes - 5M (Wednesday)
                         Mrs Kimberley Mathewson - KD (Wednesday)
                         Mrs Kimberley Mathewson - 2G (Friday)

Learning Technology Coordinator: Mrs Margaret Rowan
Learning Technology Trainee: Mr Brendon Daly

Administration: Mrs Chris Capolupo (Tuesday-Friday) Mrs Judy Inskip (Monday)
                 Mrs Allison Masina

School Counsellor: Mrs Jeanne Appleton
Maintenance: Mr Meinardo Benitez
Cleaning: Jani King (Mr Greg Berin & Mr JoJo)
Season of Advent:
As we draw closer to the end of the school year, the Church begins a new liturgical year on Sunday with the start of the season of Advent. This is a period of time to prepare our hearts to welcome the birth of Jesus at Christmas. It is a time of joy, celebration and a time to encounter God in prayer and as He speaks to us in the Gospels. Through this we will be renewed and strengthened, in our mission to bear witness to Christ in the world.

It is also an opportunity to encourage our children to reflect on the meaning of Christmas, beyond the presents and commercial representations they are exposed to, perhaps by joining with them to spend extra time in prayer and to set aside time to read and reflect on the weekly Gospel message of the four Sundays of Advent.

Significant Cuts to Education:
The Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta School Funding website has recently been created in response to the NSW Liberal Government’s plan to cut $1.7 billion from school education funding in New South Wales. Parents can access this website on the following link: http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/schoolfunding. This website provides information to schools and parents on how to become involved in a range of activities to oppose the NSW Governments school funding cuts. I encourage parents to continue communicating their concerns and recommendations to local members using the sample letters available on the website. Catholic Schools across NSW are united in their opposition to any reduction of school funding and are petitioning on Tuesday 11 December to have this decision overturned. More information regarding school funding will be distributed next week.

Thankyou:
Sincere thanks to the P&F who at our Friday assembly donated $8000 to the school community. This money will go towards purchasing i-pads for our children to use in 2013. God Bless, Mrs Pletkan and all the members of the P&F for their efforts and labour this year.

Thank you to Mrs Margaret Meehan and teachers for their combined effort in running our 2012 CAPA day. We also acknowledge and thank Mr & Mrs Hicks, from Outback Steakhouse, for providing a BBQ lunch for all children and staff on the CAPA day.

Farewell and Best Wishes:
As we come to the end of 2012 I would like to farewell and thank:
Mr Scott Carroll, who will take up the position of Acting REC at Mary Immaculate at Quakers Hill for 2013.
We Welcome Ms Leesa Gillard to the position of Acting REC at St Mary MacKillop during 2013.
Miss Maura Murnane, who is retiring from permanent teaching after many years of devoted service to Catholic Education.
Miss Amanda Jeffrey and Miss Joanne Carbone, who have taken up temporary teaching roles at St Mary MacKillop this year.

Reminders:
I would like to draw your attention to a number of upcoming events:
- 11:00am Monday 3 December - Parent Helpers Morning Tea in the Multi Purpose Centre
- 7:00pm Tuesday 4 December - Christmas Concert at St Dominic’s College

Thought for the Week
“I pray for each of you telling God all I want for each one of you”
St Mary MacKillop 25.9.1873

Have a Blessed Week
Michael Siciliano
PRINCIPAL
School Safety

Please be advised that for the safety of all our children, the side access gate beside the administration block will be locked between the hours of 8:45am and 3:00pm. If you need access to the school, or if your child arrives at school after 8:45am, the intercom system located on the wall near the gate will need to be used.

Movie Team 2012

Congratulations to our Year 5 Movie Team - Elijah, Luka, Nick G, Jaz, Lilly-Rose, Bailey, Amy and Rhiannon who attended the Parramatta Diocesan Film Festival last night. At the film festival they showed their movie and watched the short films created by other schools.

Movie Team Review

During this year Elijah, Luka, Nick G, Jaz, Lilly-rose, Lexie, Bailey and us participated in the movie project. We learnt how to create films and edit movies. We had workshops at AKC in Mt Druitt and here at school. Ron Van Vliet and other CEO members ran the workshops.

After many workshops we then had to use these new skills and create a 5 minute movie. Our movie was about a superhero, played by Elijah, who helped school kids and saved them from getting in trouble. Until two awesome, amazing, gorgeous superheroes called the Teachers’ Angels, played by us, tried to stop Captain Woop Woop and help the teachers.

It has been a fun experience being involved with the movie team and made me appreciate the movies we watch. Our movie went for 5 minutes and we had to film everything at least ten times each and then edit it, which took weeks, now imagine the work involved for a 2 hour movie! There are many roles when making a movie. These are actor, camera operator, director, sound engineer, scriptwriter, storyboard maker and editor. We shared the roles around so everyone worked in front of the camera and behind the camera.

In my opinion, it was the best experience. Everyone involved really enjoyed it. Some of the bloopers were extremely funny! We would encourage Year 4 students to definitely participate in it next year as they will thoroughly enjoy it and will learn lots of movie-making skills.

Last night, we attended the Parramatta Diocesan Film Festival where we showed our movie and watch the short films created by other schools. Tomorrow we are going to show the school our short film at the morning assembly.

By Amy Stemp and Rhiannon Freemantle (5R)

P & F News

Thank you to the many parent helpers who made our final hot food day for the year such a success. A special thank you to the Hicks family and the Outback Steak House for your generous donation of time and sausages. We raised a total of three hundred dollars for this event.

It has been brought to our attention that some parents have been parking illegally in no stopping zones, driving into the bus bay to drop children off, and illegally walking the children across the road and not using the zebra crossing. These practices are all dangerous and if caught fines will be issued. Please let us all be responsible and set good examples for our children.

As our year draws to a close, the P&F executive would like to take this opportunity to thank all families for your generous support and encouragement over the past twelve months. We believe 2012 has been a positive year for building up further our very strong community. We have enjoyed many events together, the Welcome BBQ, fete, concerts, dance-a-thon, disco, swimming and athletics carnivals, hot food days, Book Fair, ice blocks, Captivate events, Grandparents Day, Mothers Day, Fathers Day celebrations and many more.

Through your generosity we have raised a total of $33,000 this year, an incredible effort. Our children will benefit greatly in their learning from these funds. We take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, Holy and safe Christmas with your families.

A reminder that parent helpers morning tea is Monday 3 December 11:00am. If you have helped in any way at school you are warmly invited to attend. Please RSVP to the office.

P & F Executive
### Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3 December</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Parent Helpers Morning Tea - All Welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4 December</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Christmas Concert at St Dominic’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11 December</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reports Sent Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>6:30pm-9:30pm</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17 December</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Mass - St Nicholas of Myra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>18 December</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>19 December</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Fun Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 4 ends for all students - Kindergarten to Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday &amp;</td>
<td>20 December</td>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Development Days - Pupil Free Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>21 December</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ICE BLOCKS

The P & F will be selling iceblocks, 60c for full and 30c for half, on the following days in Term 4.
- Friday 30/11, Monday 3/12, Thursday 6/12, Tuesday 11/12, Friday 14/12 and Monday 17/12.

### End of Year Reminders

**Bus Travel 2013:**
Parents are reminded that students who travel by bus and are going into Year 3 2013 need to re-apply for a bus pass. Applications are available from the school office. Applications must be returned ASAP.

**Not Returning to St Mary MacKillop Primary in 2013:**
If your child (K-5) is not returning to St Mary MacKillop in 2013 we need this confirmed in writing as soon as possible to enable us to plan our overall staffing and learning groups for next year. It will also assist us with enrolment enquiries we are receiving for next year.

### Dates for Your Diary Term 1 - 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>29 January</td>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Development Day - Staff Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30 January</td>
<td>8:45am</td>
<td>Students Year 1 - 6 commence Term 1 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>31 January</td>
<td>8:45am-12:00pm</td>
<td>Kindergarten commence 2013 - ½ day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1 February</td>
<td>8:45am-12:00pm</td>
<td>Kindergarten ½ day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>4 February</td>
<td>8:45-3:00pm</td>
<td>Kindergarten commence full days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Primary Swimming Carnival Years 3 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>7 February</td>
<td>6:00-9:00pm</td>
<td>P &amp; F Welcome BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Opening School Mass and Blessing of St Mary MacKillop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>26 February</td>
<td></td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1 March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Diocesan Swimming Carnival-Mt Druitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>15 March</td>
<td></td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>22 March</td>
<td></td>
<td>NSWCPS Swimming Trials-Homebush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>2014 Kindergarten Parent Information Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28 March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Friday-Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1 April</td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Monday-Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12 April</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1 Concludes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>