



Dear Parents and Carers,

I have just finished a walk through our classrooms to help me learn about the great things happening at our school. I do this every day and often take other school leaders with me to share our thoughts. I am amazed with how quickly our children and teachers have been able to transition back into the learning.

Our areas for improvement this year are:

**For all students to demonstrate the connection between 'scripture (biblical texts), Catholic teaching (catechism), practices or tradition (what we do) AND the modern world in the R.E curriculum.**

**For all students to demonstrate 12 months growth in literacy and numeracy for a year at school.**

Today I was able to spend some time with our teachers from Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 as they worked in teams to develop 'Learning Cycles' for their students using the new Religious Education Curriculum for our diocese. These Learning Cycles will be implemented next Term and have been designed with our first improvement goal in mind. We are teaching our faith and Catholic traditions very differently through this new curriculum and the teachers have been doing 'big learning' themselves.

I have also noticed on my walks that the challenge in what students are being asked to learn in Mathematics is really high. In Year Six I worked with students who were learning how to find the area of circles and how Pi (as a formula) is integral in measuring this. Kindergarten had exceeded their outcomes for measuring mass when I came through. They were using balance pans and recording their discoveries around heavy and light. (This is usually learning for Year 1). In Year 1 the children were learning to record their multiplication learning as 'arrays' and even 'partial arrays'.

This challenging learning would normally commence in Year 2. There are examples all across the school where children, at all stages of the learning journey, are being challenged to do hard thinking and grow in their understanding. We want all of our students to grow in Maths this year.

I look forward to one day being able to connect the great tools we used during remote learning with the great learning happening in our classrooms so that you can share in the awesome things happening at St Mary MacKillop. Rest assured that we are back being Safe Respectful Learners.

Together We Grow

Scott Buchan  
Principal

# St Mary MacKillop Primary School PENRITH SOUTH

17 June 2020

## 2020 Half Year Learning Conversations – Zoom Appointments

Dear Parents,

As we communicated last week we would love to hear from you about how your child went during the remote learning time. We sent home a note with some questions we hope will give our teachers insight about your children as learner.

We are giving our parents the opportunity to share your thoughts with teachers by recording them on the attached sheet or you can book in a conversation with the teachers over zoom.

Learning Conversations will commence week 9 **Monday 22 June 2020**. Teachers have selected various times and days of Week 9 and 10.

We will be using our online booking system for the Parent/Teacher conversations via [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website.

- Enter the Event Code 'e6rpj' in the white box then select 'GO'
- Enter your email address (used to confirm your appointment)
- Enter Parents Full Name
- Enter contact phone number
- Select number of students for interviews
- Enter Students Christian and Surname
- Select GO
- Select the teachers you wish to see for each child
- Select GO
- Select the appointment time that suits you best for each child
- The system will not allow 'Back to Back' appointments, so you will need to allow time in between each interview for each child. Unavailable times will be marked with a 'red cross'.
- When you click FINISH, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. PLEASE KEEP THIS EMAIL SOMEWHERE SAFE. You will need to return to this email on the day of your appointment. 3 minutes before your appointment time, click on the ZOOM LINK (next to the teacher's name) and follow onscreen instructions
- You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time and change your interviews – until the bookings close on Friday 19 June at 4:00pm. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking/s.
- Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date should contact the school directly on 02 4724 3200
- For parents that do not have internet access, or if you are having trouble with the site, please contact the school office on 02 4724 3200 for assistance.
- Conversations are strictly **10 minutes** only. To allow for technical issues it is vital that parents keep to this schedule and end their appointment in a timely manner.



Should you have any questions please contact the school office.

Kind Regards,

Margaret Rowan  
Assistant Principal

together we grow

St Mary MacKillop Primary School 180 Fragar Road Penrith South 2750 PO Box 307 Kingswood 2747

tel 4724 3200 fax 4724 2001 email [marymackillop@pams.catholic.edu.au](mailto:marymackillop@pams.catholic.edu.au) [www.marymackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au](http://www.marymackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au)



## Sport News

---

A special congratulations to the following students who received a medal for their efforts in our School Cross Country:

### **12 years boys**

1st. Cooper W  
2nd. Alex P  
3rd. Isaac O

### **12 years girls**

1st. Amber S  
2nd. Abbi G  
3rd. Stella M

### **11 years boys**

1st. Giuseppe C  
2nd. Josh P  
3rd. Bradley F

### **11 years girls**

1st. Tia B  
2nd. Charlotte C  
3rd. Anna B

### **10 years boys**

1st. Alex M  
2nd. Jai W  
3rd. Fynn M

### **10 years girls**

1st. Maddison S  
2nd. Susan V  
3rd. Ava N

### **8/9 years boys**

1st. Joel H  
2nd. Peter B  
3rd. Lachlan P

### **8/9 years girls**

1st. Aoife M  
2nd. Olivia D  
3rd. Olivia P

Miss Cassandra Wotherspoon  
Sports Coordinator



## School Fees

---

Thank you to those families who have been able to pay the Term 2 Accounts.

During the uncertain time for employment, we are grateful for your financial contributions and understanding that for many families, who may not be able to contribute. Fee relief is available to support families who are experiencing significant financial hardship as a result of COVID-19.

There are three ways that parents/carers can apply for fee relief with the process made as simple as possible. Information is available on the [CEDP website https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/Our%20Schools/School%20Fees/Fee%20Relief](https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/Our%20Schools/School%20Fees/Fee%20Relief)

We are here to help. Please contact our Senior Finance Officer, Mrs Monique Kearins if you have any questions on 4724 3200 during the hours of 8:30am – 3:30pm.

## Afternoon Pick Up

---

Please pick up all children at 3pm across the road in the park. Do not come into the playground to collect your child or take them from lines as this creates safety issues for our children.

The teacher on duty will bring any children who are not collected from the park by 3.05pm up to the school playground onto our waiters line.

If your child is on waiters, they can be collected from the playground between 3.10pm—3.30pm

Thank you for caring for our staff and kids.

## Subscribing to the KIT (Keeping In Touch)

---

Our school newsletter is only sent home in hard copy for kindergarten the first newsletter of the year.

The newsletter is available by subscribing on the schools website [www.mackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au) select News & Events> Newsletter and click on subscribe to our online newsletter, complete the form, you will then receive the newsletter each fortnight via email. You can also view the newsletter on the website under current issue.

## Skool Bag App Instructions

---

### For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

### For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).

## School Communication

---

### APPOINTMENTS

If parents have matters of concern, questions or difficulties, staff are available to assist. The first point of contact is the child's class teacher, followed by the Stage Co-ordinator.

To ensure availability please phone the office to make an appointment. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher regarding his/her progress it is necessary to make an appointment before or after school. Appointments with class teachers can only be made outside of school hours. Parents are asked not to disturb classes - if there is an emergency please go to the office.

## Dates for Your Diary Term 2 ~ 2020

| DAY    | DATE   | TIME | EVENT                           |
|--------|--------|------|---------------------------------|
| Friday | 3 July |      | Last day of Term 2 for Students |

## Dates for Your Diary Term 3 ~ 2020

| DAY    | DATE    | TIME | EVENT                            |
|--------|---------|------|----------------------------------|
| Monday | 20 July |      | First day of Term 3 for Students |

# After School Drama

@

## St Mary MacKillop School Hall

**CLASSES START  
WEDNESDAY  
30th JULY**

Wednesdays

**FREE TRIAL  
CLASS!  
Enrolment required**



INFANTS KIDS (K-YR2) @ 3.15pm
PRIMARY KIDS (YR3-6) @ 4.15pm


Limited Vacancies! Get in quickly!

www.kidscanact.com.au

Mrs Cathie Parkes:- 0414 475 158

ENQUIRIES and ENROLMENTS to be completed through the website above or call Cathie. NOT the school office.

## We're Back Term 3



## KIDS CAN ACT DRAMA

Wednesdays during school terms.  
Supervision provided from 3.00pm.

**YOUNGER KIDS (K-Yr. 2) - Class 3.15pm (1 hour)**

**OLDER KIDS (Yr3- Yr7) - Class 4.15pm (1 hour)**  
(Children from all schools welcome)

Supervision also available from 3.00pm till 4.15pm for OLDER KIDS and after class for the YOUNGER KIDS until 5.15pm upon request.

CREATIVE KIDS  
VOUCHER PROVIDER

Mrs Cathie Parkes:- 0414 475 158

www.kidscanact.com.au

Mrs Parkes has taught for 12 years at St Mary MacKillop in a part time capacity.  
She is always happy to chat to discuss your child's needs and answer any questions

LIKE OUR FACE BOOK PAGE :- <https://www.facebook.com/KidsCanActDramaStudio/>



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.

**B E Y O N D**  
**A PEANUT**  
FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS PRODUCTS

[www.beyondapeanut.com](http://www.beyondapeanut.com)  
1-877-ALRG-TIP (257-4847)

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