

Keeping In Touch

2 June 2023



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News from Scott

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.

Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

This week we celebrate Reconciliation Week at school. Reconciliation is a very familiar term for Catholics, where we understand it to mean 'making our relationships right'. Our relationship with God and with each other can get damaged at times for a variety of reasons but reconciliation calls us to work on repairing those relationships in a way that upholds the dignity of each person because we are all made in the image and likeness of our God.

Reconciliation Prayer

Holy Father, God of Love,

You are the Creator of all things.

Teach us to care for our land and waters.

Help us to share justly the resources of this land. Help us to bring about spiritual and social change to improve the quality of life for all groups in our community, especially the disadvantaged.

Help young people to find true dignity and self-esteem by your Spirit.

May your power and love be the foundations on which we build our families, our communities and our Nation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Our school is blessed to be filled with wonderful people. I cannot speak highly enough of the staff we have at St Mary MacKillop and the service that they provide for our kids and our community.

The work of our teacher's in making the difference each and every day for our children is enormous. At times it can feel like the range of needs in a class are overwhelming for one teacher.

To assist the classroom teachers to meet this challenge, we have a brilliant team of support teachers. Every grade is supported by one of these teachers for 2 to 3 days a week in class. With the rich experience and expertise they possess, they help craft personalised learning experiences for the children in their class. They plan, prepare, teach the content in a variety of ways, assess with each child to check their understanding and then use that to inform the grade team of the next stage of the plan etc.. This is so valuable to our school in making the difference for your child.

I am also very proud of the professional way that our support teachers conduct themselves in growing and nurturing the partnership between the school, the home and the parish. The time spent in composing and responding to communication and the way that they engage with other services to our school such as doctor's, colleagues from CSPD etc..

They are absolute superstars.

Together We Grow

Mr Scott Buchanan

Religious Education News

Sacramental Program - Holy Communion

We continue to pray for the following 48 children who will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on either the weekend of 10th/11th June or 17th/18th June:

Liam B, Massimo B, Lucas B, McKinley C, Eli C, Matilda C, Lincoln C, Mihika C, Charlotte C, Chase D, Tyla D, Harley D, Sebastian D, Phoebe E, Archie F, Xavier F, Isaac F, Isabelle F, Callum F, Ruben F, Katelyn G, Toren G, Callie G, Samuel H, Olly H, Jack J, Heath J, Georgia K, Koah K, Orlando L, Samantha L, Vivienne L, Cruz L, Lucy L, Indy M, Fletcher M, Liam M, Nicholas M, Xavier M, Zoe N, Annabelle N, Sabastjan P, Gabriella P, Sienna P, Charlotte R, Jonah S, Leo S and Maxwell S.



Mrs Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

St Mary MacKillop Bullying Policy (Pastoral Care Policy)

Our school Mission Statement and our Pastoral Care Policy underpin our whole school commitment to providing a safe and supportive environment.

Staff and students are aware that bullying behaviour is never acceptable. Incidences of bullying behaviour are dealt with in line with Diocesan Policy.

Our school climate fosters a sense of belonging and empowerment through:

- *Promoting positive interpersonal relationships*
- *Protective behaviours programs*
- *Clear and consistent student management procedures.*

Bullying is the act of oppressing people less powerful than ourselves, for example, inflicting physical violence, using verbal ridicule, exclusion and rumour mongering.

Most bullying is psychological and not physical. It is intentional, often continues over lengthy periods of time and usually unprovoked.

Staff at St Mary MacKillop are committed to take the problem of bullying seriously and to try to eliminate it in the school.

Year 1 Excursion

On the 24th May Year 1 travelled to Lizard Log in Western Sydney Parklands to learn all about features of people and places. Students enjoyed a variety of hands on activities to help explore their thinking.

Students started the day with an introduction to native animals that we would find in Australia. From here students then explored how we can stop water pollution and the impact it has on sea life. Afterwards students built habitats in groups out of what they could find in the natural environment. These habitats were for the native animals the students met at the beginning of the day. Students thoroughly enjoyed this part as they could be as creative as they wanted. The day continued with bug catching and bird house making. Both of these tasks challenged students to be observant and creative in their designs of the bird house.

The playground that students got to play on at lunch time was definitely a high light as it had a zip line where students raced each other. Overall year 1 had an excellent day at Lizard Log.



Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day

We had a nice early start to the day on a very fresh chilly morning with the MacKillop girls warmed up and ready for the day. We were off, all working hard to keep our position and wanting to start off with a win. Our first game ended in a 0-0 draw which gave us a lot of confidence leading into our next game, with the girls knowing what their positions are and how to work together as a team.

Our second game started off strong with a never give up attitude. We walked away with a 4-0 win. Games three and four, were won with a 1-0 score line. Game five, we require a win to secure 1st spot on the ladder, we finished the game with a 0-0 draw. For Game six we were playing the team in second place that were 2 points behind us.

The girls were determined to win this game and came away with a 4-0 win which put St Mary MacKillop in first place on the ladder. Game 7, the girls were more so determined now to ensure they finish the day undefeated and with zero goals conceded. With another great team performance we finished 3-0 winners and finishing on top of our pool group with 5 wins, 2 draws, 13 goals for and 0 against.

The girls played every game with passion, respect, fairness and a never give up attitude representing St Mary MacKillop with pride which they all should be very proud of.

I'd like to thank all the girls for making the day such a wonderful experience as well as the parents and grandparents for their wonderful support during the whole day.

The overall motto for the day being: Together we win

Coach Paulie

Ps: highlight of the day Olivia.D (Yr 5) starting to sing the school song and the entire team joining in singing loud and proud.



National Simultaneous Story Time

Wednesday 24th May marked the 23rd annual National Simultaneous Storytime in which one book is chosen to be read simultaneously in schools, libraries, pre-schools, homes and bookstores across Australia and the world. We celebrated this yesterday with a whole school reading of the book 'Speedy Sloth' by Rebecca Young and Heath McKenzie. Our amazing teachers got involved to present the book in a very colourful way.



Leaving Students

A term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during term for the next term. Where appropriate notice has been received a pro-rata credit can be calculated based on a pro-rata 40 week year. **One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following years' enrolment i.e. the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived in this circumstance. If you know your child will be leaving at the end of the year, please advise the school as soon as possible.**

Planning a Holiday?

There are new Government guidelines for schools to follow when marking the school rolls. These guidelines require parents who are taking their children on holidays, during the school year, to complete a request of 'Exemption from School Attendance' form. This is required if you are taking your child on leave for **more than 5 school days**. A copy of your travel itinerary. The application form is available from the school office and must be completed **prior** to your holiday.

Longer periods require the approval of the Director of Schools and the Catholic Education Commission.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 2 June	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Tuesday 6 June	5:00pm-6:30pm	Holy Communion Practice	St Nicholas of Myra Parish
Wednesday 7 June	7pm	P & F Meeting	School Hall
Thursday 8 June	7pm	Primary Athletics Carnival Reconciliation for Holy Communion Candidates	Parker Street Oval St Nicholas of Myra
Friday 9 June	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Monday 12 June		King's Birthday Public Holiday No School for Students	
Thursday 15 June	9:15am	Year 6 Grade Mass	School Hall
Friday 13 June	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Friday 16 June	2:20pm	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day Whole School Assembly	Jamison Park School Hall
Thursday 22 June	9:15am	Year 4 Grade Mass	School Hall
Friday 23 June	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Tuesday 27 June		Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day	Jamison Park
Wednesday 28 June	9:15am	Year 1 Grade Mass	School Hall
Friday 30 June	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Term 3 Dates for your Diary			
Monday 17 July		Staff Development Day No School for Students	
Tuesday 18 July		Term 3 Commences for Students	

St Mary MacKillop, South Penrith

150 Fragar Road, South Penrith NSW 2750

Ambrose School Age Care provides fun, engaging programs before and after school. Our programs include games, sport, art, craft, and free-time facilitated by Ambrose educators experienced in the nationally approved learning framework, My Time Our Place. Children love Ambrose as the programs are developed around their interests and ideas

They're also a great way to make friends, develop social skills, and most importantly – have fun!



Our Opening Hours

Before School Care: 6.30am – 8.45am

After School Care: 2:30pm – 6.00pm

Pupil Free Day: 6.30am – 6.00pm

Our fees Government subsidy (CCS) available depending on each family's eligibility.

Session	Time	After 85% Child Care Subsidy*	After 50% Child Care Subsidy*	Advertised Fee No Child Care Subsidy
Morning	6.30am – 8.45am	\$4.23	\$11.55	\$22 per session
Afternoon	2.30pm – 6.00pm	\$6.06	\$16.54	\$31.50 per session
Pupil Free Day				
- Standard Fee	6.30am – 6.00pm	\$14.43	\$39.37	\$75
- Early 'Bee' Special		\$12.51	\$34.12	\$65

*Child Care Subsidy (CCS) can provide up to 85% of the cost of your childcare fees. External party charges for in-service workshops and excursions may apply.

All educators working directly with the children hold a valid working with children check and there is always an educator rostered who is qualified in first aid, asthma, anaphylaxis and CPR.

To enrol now - please complete the enrolment form [here](#)

Or contact the service on

Email: stmarymackillop@ambrose.org.au **Phone:** 0492 367 298



Learning for life

Is this safe?



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- 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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