February
20  Circus Challenge 9.00am
21  Whole School Mass 9.10am
21  Parent Night 5.45pm
23  Swimming Carnival
27  Volunteer Workshop 2:30pm
28  Pancake Day

March
1  Ash Wednesday Mass 9:10
   Yr 2—7
   Ash Wednesday Liturgy
   11:30am Rec/Yr 1 in Hall
3  Clean Up Australia Day
8  Assembly 2.30pm Hosts 4/5
14  Student Free Day—Staff Day
    Numeracy

Children’s University enrolments are currently being taken and will close at the end of February. So many children are taking up this opportunity to engage in exciting learning opportunities. Looking forward to seeing them in their caps and gowns at the end of the year at the graduation ceremony either locally or at Adelaide University!

Yr 4/5 in the Butterfly Garden doing some planting and weeding on a beautiful day.

The COLA is really taking shape now!
Dear Parents

School Board AGM

The AGM of the School Board was held recently. The AGM firstly acknowledged the contribution of all the serving Board members and especially those who were vacating their positions after their tenure concluded. We thanked and acknowledged Stella Scanlon and Jane Hetherington. Two positions were declared vacant. There were two nominees for these positions - James Gosse and Tony McCarthy who were duly appointed to the Board. The 2017 Board is made up of the following:

Ex-Officio Members
Fr Peter Fountain—President
Maureen Hanrahan—Executive Officer

Appointed Member
Sr Loreto O’Connor

Elected Members
Nick Zema - Chair
Nerys Merrett - Secretary
Nicole Hayes - Chair of Finance
Judy Goodes - Community Club Liaison
James Gosse
Tony McCarthy—Building and Grounds

Nominated Member
Alison Smith—Staff rep

The role of the Board is as follows:
• develop policies that nurture the religious dimension and guide the direction of the school;
• develop the relationship between the school and the local Church;
• promote educational excellence within the school;
• support the administration of the school;
• foster harmonious and positive collaboration within the school community;
• protect children;
• monitor buildings and grounds development and maintenance;
• exercise financial stewardship of the school;
• ensure compliance with legal obligations.

Should parents wish to raise a matter with the Board they can contact me on 87372902 or the Chair, Nick Zema on 0418531670

Counsellor

We welcome to our school community Judy Renney who has been appointed as Counsellor. Judy will be here on Wednesdays in odd weeks. Judy is also a Counsellor at Tenison Woods College and has been there since 2003.

A Counsellor’s position is governed by the Child Protection Act and at the same time respects the confidentiality of the students.

There are many ways that students can access Judy:
• Referral from a Teacher or Principal
• Referral from a parent
• Children seeking me out (self-referred).

Judy is happy to talk with parents about their child and can be contacted at the school every second Wednesday. We are thrilled to have Judy on the MMMS staff and she looks forward to getting to know out children and families and supporting them in her role.

Buses

Recently some parents would have received some information regarding Bus Safety. In addition to that please ensure that your children are safe in the mornings while waiting for the bus and not running near the roadway or near the bus as it pulls in to collect children.

There is also a fair bit of congestion near the bus parking lane at 3:10pm. Be mindful of the No Parking Zone and times for the section of the road near the Church.

In all things love
Congratulations

Congratulations to Simone Kain on winning the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) Rural Women’s Award for South Australia for 2017. Simone’s work in promoting rural women and primary industries is inspiring.

Volunteers

If you have not done this training in the last three years you are invited to attend a Volunteer Workshop which will be held at school on Monday 27 Feb at 2:30. This is a requirement for anyone wanting to be involved with children in activities such as reading, cooking and sport etc.

Learning Plans

Teachers are working towards completing Learning Plans for each child. You are encouraged to contact teachers now if you have particular concerns around your child’s learning needs or would like to construct the Plan jointly with your child’s teacher.

Swimming

Swimming was a big hit as usual. The weather was up and down but that didn’t worry the children. It was so good to see their persistence and confidence acted out in their activities. We are looking forward to the Swimming Carnival on Thursday 23 February. Jenny Herbert has been very busy planning this day and information will be sent home shortly regarding times etc.

School Policies

Just a reminder that our School Policies are available on our website at:
http://www.mmms.catholic.edu.au/our-school/policies

Please refresh your understanding of these policies especially the Allergens Management Policy in regard to not sending nut products to school.

An update on the Uniform Policy will be available later this term.

Three important events coming up for our whole school community:

Parent Evening
Tuesday 21 February
All classrooms will be open from 5:45—6:30pm

We cannot provide a crèche so we ask that if children need to attend they are under your supervision and not left in the school yard while you are visiting classrooms. Please note that these are casual meet the teacher sessions and if you require a formal conversation with your child’s teacher please make a mutually suitable time to meet on another occasion.

Reading in Reception Class
Tuesday 21 February
6:30 pm
An information session for parents of children in Reception or other interested parents will be held following the Parent Evening

WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT
Friday, 3 March
5.00 pm—8pm at the School Hall

Please help the Community Club welcome our new families with a wine and Cheese Night. Please bring something for a shared cheese platter, your drink of choice and a chair.
The whole family is welcome.
Pancakes!!!!

Shrove Tuesday
28th February
Honey, Maple Syrup, Lemon, Jam

Gold coin donation for Project Compassion

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent in the Roman Catholic Church. Shrove Tuesday is a reminder that we are entering a season of penance. Traditionally it was the day to eat many things from the pantry in preparation for fasting during Lent.

Sacrament Program

If you would like your child to be part of the Sacrament Formation Program this year please contact me.

This could include First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion.

Children would usually be in Year 3 or above to participate.

Beginning of Year Mass
Tuesday 21 February at 9:15
Reception to Yr 7
St Joseph’s Church

Ash Wednesday Mass
1 March at 9:10am
in St Joseph’s Church
Yrs 2—7

Ash Wednesday Liturgy
1 March at 11:30am in School Hall
Rec/Yr 1

Please keep Sunday 19th March free for our Family Mass and Parish BBQ to celebrate 150 years since Fr Julian Tenison Woods came to the parish and they celebrated with a picnic. More details later.
In U10’s Basketball starts soon!

Are you turning 7-10 years old this year and interested in playing basketball? Or do you know of anyone that is? Get involved in the Milli- cent Basketball under 10’s program by filling in a registration form. Forms are available from Denton’s Sportspower, or online on the Millicent basketball website or Facebook page. This season starts on Thursday the 23rd of February, with registrations closing on February the 18th. The under 10’s competition is open to children of all abilities and is in fact a great place to start, as the program offers a half an hour game and training each week. For more information contact Peter Seebohm on 0438388073.

Newsletters

If anyone is having trouble accessing their Newsletter via email, please let me know and I will send a hard copy home.

Janice

Swimming Carnival

The Swimming Carnival is being held on Thursday, February 23rd. We will be setting up at the Pool from 8.30am if anyone is available to help. A BBQ lunch is being provided by the Community Club, and families are asked to send in cakes, slices etc for morning tea. BBQ lunch will be Sausages $1.00, Hamburgers $2.00 and 50c extra for coleslaw. The Year 7 children will be selling Zooper Doopers to raise money for the Canberra Camp. DK Coffee also available.

Clean Up Australia Day 2017

Our school is supporting the annual event by cleaning up around our school and parish grounds. Each class will be designated areas to remove rubbish materials under the guidance of our Student Voice leaders.

When: Friday March 3rd at 9.00 – 9.45am
Where: Our school and parish community grounds
What To Bring: Strong gloves and tongs

Birthdays

Happy birthday to Tom B (16th), Mitchell (16th) and Mrs Coote (17th) who celebrate their birthdays this week. Hope you all have a great day.

Little Athletics commences this Friday, 17th at 4.30pm.

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Soccer

MILLICENT UNITED Training 2017
U/12 Start Tue 7 Feb & Thu 4.30 pm
Mal Sneddon 0429 788 161
U/14 Tue & Thu 6pm
Warren Dewberry 0497 802 071
U/17 Steve Galli 0427 332 813
Seniors Start 10 Feb then
Tue & Thu 6pm
Marion Grgetic 0421 592 810

Staff Formation Days were discussed at Board Meeting:

The following were confirmed:
Tuesday 14 March – Numeracy (with St Anthony’s) - Confirmed
Thursday 8 June – Numeracy (with St Anthony’s) - Confirmed
Friday 9 June – Whole School Wellbeing (with St Anthony’s) - Confirmed

The following are yet to be confirmed
Friday 8 September – RE focus  TBC
Thursday 15 December – Review and Handover meetings  TBC
Friday 16 December – Handover cont. Whole Staff Review  TBC

Little Athletics commences this Friday, 17th at 4.30pm.