



# Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

*In All Things Love*

Reception to Year Seven Co-Educational Catholic Primary School

5 Portland Street, Penola SA 5277

Telephone: (08) 8737 2902 [www.mmms.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mmms.catholic.edu.au)

Term 1 Week 8

Thursday, March 24th 2022

## UPCOMING DATES

### MARCH

- 25 Occasional Care  
8.45am  
National Ride 2  
School Day  
Assembly R/1  
2.30pm
- 28 Playgroup 9.30am
- 29 Tenison Woods  
College 2023 Year 7  
Information Night  
7.15pm
- 30 Tenison Woods  
College Twilight Tour

### APRIL

- 01 Occasional Care  
8.45am  
Whole School  
Beginning of Year  
Mass 9.15am
- 02 Earth Hour
- 04 Playgroup 9.30am
- 05 Mid South East  
Athletics
- 08 Occasional Care  
Assembly Year 4/5  
2.30pm
- 11 SAPSASA Softball

## RECEPTION/YEAR 1 CLASS NEWS

In the Reception and Year One classroom, we have been engaging in daily explicit phonics experiences. When a new phoneme (letter sound) is introduced, we sing a song about our new phoneme, practise our letter formation in many ways, brainstorm words that include our new sound and practise blending phonemes together to read and write new words. At the end of each week, we consolidate our learning by participating in hands-on phonics rotation experiences.



# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

*in all things love*



## *from the principal*

Dear Parents and Friends

On Saturday 19th March we celebrated the Feast Day of St Joseph. Saint Joseph was an ordinary and humble man who was the husband of Mary and foster-father of Jesus here on earth. Joseph protected and cared for Mary and Jesus, placing their needs before his own.

He was a carpenter and craftsman and spent many hours creating things from wood. Joseph was a man of deep faith, turning constantly to God for guidance and strength. He is an example to us of how an ordinary person can have an extraordinary love for others. Through Joseph's example we can learn to trust in God's way. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop chose St Joseph to be the patron of her new order – the Sisters of St Joseph which began here in Penola over 150 years ago. In naming the Congregation in his honour Mary MacKillop placed all the works of the sisters under St Joseph's care. Our school was named St Joseph's School for fifty years before it became Mary MacKillop Memorial School. Reflecting on the thoughts of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop about St Joseph 'Let us, my loved Sisters, be faithful to the spirit of our glorious Patron – patient, humble and hidden.' Let us today resolve to be more kind, be more patient, be more humble and reach out to someone in need.

St Joseph, pray for us.

### **SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

What an incredible day we had on Tuesday. The Penola Swimming Pool was a hive of activity for every child. The standard of racing and ability displayed was outstanding and the improvement from the beginning of swimming lessons week to Tuesday was significant for a lot of students. I was so proud of the way in which each student took part in the day, with great sportsmanship and encouragement of each other.

The student verses parent race at the end of the day was a particular highlight, as was the Zucchi race – very, very funny – with all students involved in the one race!

Congratulations to team McCormack for taking out the overall winners for the day. House Captains Mawson and Emalee congratulated their team and thanked all those who helped to put the day together.



Congratulations to our Junior Champions – Oscar and Milly and our Senior Champions – Alida and Mawson. They displayed outstanding swimming all day.



# **RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS**

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Thank you to the amazing House Captains who capably led their teams through the day, making sure that everyone was involved and also assisting in the pool with the younger students and any little jobs that needed to be done.

A huge thank you to the swimming carnival committee. It is an enormous task putting a swimming carnival together, however, Romi, Kaitlyn and Kathy you did an amazing job! Also thank you to the rest of the staff that supported this committee with anything that was required.

Many thanks to the parents who volunteered to be judges and to Judy Goodes for her assistance on the mic – at her last swimming carnival after many years!

A terrific BBQ lunch was enjoyed and we thank those who helped out organising it for the students.

A fantastic day for the MMMS community!

## COVID UPDATE

This week you would have received an email stating that for Week 9 there are no changes to the current restrictions and protocols in schools.

We are continuing to be vigilant in keeping our community safe with:

Mask wearing for all staff, all of the time

Encouraging mask wearing for Years 3 – 6

Promoting natural ventilation

Encouraging outdoor learning opportunities

Minimising movement and visitors within the school

Regularly timed hand washing and sanitising

Thorough cleaning of surfaces regularly

To this end we ask that parents try to minimise their entry to the school as much as their child's wellbeing will allow.

## SCHOOL BOARD FOR 2022

The Mary MacKillop Memorial School Board has an advisory role in our school. The Board functions within the general goals for the parish and the school's vision and mission statements. The board membership comprises the parish priest, school principal, one staff member, parent members elected by the parent body and a parish representative.

The five main areas of responsibility of the School Board are:

- Policy
- Budget
- Planning for the provision and maintenance of school buildings and equipment
- Communication between school and parish communities
- Curriculum policy

Mary MacKillop School Board meets on the third Wednesday of every month, during school term. Prayerful reflection, discernment and consensual decision making are the operating principles of the School Board.

At the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, March 16, Chairperson Judy Mountford chaired the meeting, and the 2021 Annual Report was presented to the community. Nominations were presented for vacancies on the School Board. Congratulations to the following members who were re-elected:

Ashley Braun, Letitia Gosse, (second two year term) and Nicole Reschke, Tracey Brokken (third term of 1 year).

We congratulate our newest school board member, Glenn Tucker.

We acknowledge the leadership of the Board members for 2022.

# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

## 2022 Board Members

Ex-Officio Members: President – Fr Dev Principal – Mrs Nicole Coote

Elected Members: Chairperson: Tom Pearce School Representative: Ali Smith Parent Representatives: Nicole Reschke, Tracey Brokken, Leticia Gosse, Ashley Braun, Amanda Flint and Glenn Tucker Parish Representative: Sr Loreto O'Connor

You are able to view the Annual School Report for 2021 on our website or request a hard copy from the front office.

## MMMS PICNIC DAY

Many thanks to the families who attended the MMMS Picnic Day. The weather was beautiful, and it was a wonderful way to connect with other families in a relaxed environment. We are looking forward to other ways to come together as a school community in the future.

## HARMONY DAY AND BULLYING NO WAY! DAY

The continuing message of Harmony Day is "Everyone Belongs". Managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, Harmony Day is celebrated annually around Australia.

It is a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. We are encouraged to recognise that our differences make Australia a great place to live! Also clustered with Harmony Day is National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, March 20, which both seamlessly intersect, with our school community committed to making sure we follow 'Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible' as our mantra.

Students wore a splash of orange today and engaged in various Harmony activities in their classroom.

The theme for 2022 National Day of Action against Bullying was Kindness Culture – it starts with you! Last Friday

we created a Kindness Wall at school where each student wrote a message of kindness for others to read. By building Kindness Culture together, we can promote inclusion, respect and community belonging for all students in schools. All students are continuously involved in initiatives, focusing on reducing bullying to zero and increasing everyone's wellbeing at MMMS. A healthy wellbeing means happy, confident young people. As a whole school we take a stand to No Bullying.

## NAPLAN ONLINE

This year the students in Year 3 and 5 will be participating in NAPLAN Online between the 10th—20th May. If you have any questions or queries regarding this concerning your child, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

## STUDENT SAFETY, CHILD PROTECTION AND WELLBEING

The Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide Safeguarding Children and Young People policy can be found on our school website. The policy outlines the key principles and responsibilities of Catholic schools to ensure a total community approach towards the protection of children and young people in their care. I encourage you to visit our website to view the full policy. As part of our duty of care and wellbeing of our students I want to assure all parents and carers of our absolute commitment to ensuring that Mary MacKillop Memorial School is a safe place for all. Our staff are committed and trained to protect the children and young people in our care.

All staff and regular volunteers have current working with children checks.

We teach our children age-appropriate strategies to keep themselves safe through South Australia's Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum.

Staff complete certification and undertake regular updated training in Responding to Abuse and Neglect in Education and Care Settings.

# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS



*from the principal // community*

We also promote strategies to minimise bullying and help students stay safe online.

You can read more about our commitment to the well-being of your child on our website.

Additional information about the broader protection policies of Catholic Education SA can be found on their website.

<http://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/safe-environments-for-all>

## IS YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE?

Help your children safely navigate their digital world and educate them to avoid harmful online experiences. Explore websites, games, apps and social media together and set some rules.

Technology tips for parents of kids 5 to 12

Ensure your own devices are protected by a password or pin, so your child cannot accidentally come across inappropriate content. If you are thinking about giving them their own tablet or smartphone, ASK YOURSELF are they old enough?

Use parental control tools appropriate for the age and experience of your child. Be upfront about this and get your child on board. Let them know that these can be reviewed and changed as they get older and they continue to demonstrate responsible behaviour. Consider installing a 'child-friendly' search engine that will allow them to explore a limited number of sites.

God bless



Nicole



## SAPSASA SWIMMING

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to compete in SAPSASA swimming in Adelaide on 1st April.



Alida, Mawson, Charlie, Tait, Chloe, Sophie, and Lily.

## SAPSASA SOFTBALL

Congratulations to Mawson, Charlie and Will who have been selected for the SAPSASA Boys Softball team.



## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Max (2nd) we hope you have a fantastic day.

# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

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## PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO CHILD AND YOUTH ANXIETY AND DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS

(Care IMPACT Specialist Workshop Module 16)

Date/Timings: 29th of March 2022 (9.45am to 12.30pm).

Audience: Caregivers, teachers, support workers, practitioners and leaders who are seeking best-practice knowledge in understanding, preventing and intentionally responding to child and youth anxiety and depressive symptoms.

Delivery: Zoom Webinar

Registration: Click the box to the right

PREVENTING AND  
RESPONDING TO  
CHILD AND YOUTH  
ANXIETY AND  
DEPRESSIVE  
SYMPTOMS

## FLOURISHING AWARDS

Congratulations to all who received flourishing awards last week. We are super proud that you have been aiming to be the best version of yourself each and every day!



## TENISON WOODS COLLEGE INFORMATION EVENING AND TOUR

2023 Year 7 Middle School Information Evening - Penola



Tuesday 29 March  
2022, 7:15pm.  
Mary MacKillop Memorial  
School, Penola

We invite all prospective 2023 Year 7 students and families to join us at Mary MacKillop Memorial School. Meet the Head of Middle School, Mr. Nick Patzel, as well as hear from current students attending the College and see for yourself what our College has to offer.

At Tension Woods College, every learner has a place, every learner has a pathway and every learner will shine. This is supported by our new curriculum opportunities, in our newly developed Middle School, the Gilap Wanga Learning Community.



BUSES RUNNING DAILY FROM PENOLA,  
COONAWARRA, KALANGADOO & SURROUNDS

TENISON WOODS COLLEGE Mount Gambier | Early Learning - Year 12 Co-Educational Catholic College  
Corner of Shepherdson Road & White Avenue, Mount Gambier | P: (08) 8725 5455 | E: info@tenison.catholic.edu.au | www.tenison.catholic.edu.au

We invite parents and students to join TWC on 29th March for the Penola Family Gathering and the TWC 2023 Year 7 Information Evening beginning at 7.15pm. TWC look forward to sharing with you the exciting things happening in their Middle School. Tension Woods College also invites you to join them for their Twilight Tour which will be held on 30th March. For further information please contact Tracey Davey on dave@tenison.catholic.edu.au.

## SIGN UP FOR NET SET GO



Penola

Starts 3:45pm

Thursday 31st  
March, runs  
till the end of  
Term 2

Contact:

Trish Wooding

0418858340

For more info

Please  
register ASAP

To sign up  
click the  
picture to the  
Left

# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS



Last week we had the first of our class Masses and Liturgies for the year. It was wonderful to enter the church again as a school community and spend time in the presence of Jesus. I was very proud of the reverence shown by all and the engagement in what Fr Dev was doing was amazing. I am looking forward to attending again this week with the Year 6 and 2/3 classes.

In preparation for this the R/1 class along with Miss Heazelwood and myself had a visit to the church. What was most significant to me though was their questions and thirst for knowledge. The children wanted to know all about the pictures on the walls, what the purpose of the candles were and we even spoke about the importance of the tabernacle! It was truly amazing to witness the wonder of our children and I look forward to unpacking some of their questions in the coming weeks.

## JANICE



We are now in the third week of Lent with the Project Compassion story of Janice, a Wagilak woman and traditional dancer who tells her family's stories through movements handed down over generations.

Like many remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, Janice's faces a range of challenges – low employment and education, financial hardship, poorer health and lower life expectancy.

With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.

Janice believes that Djilpin Arts' work is essential to create opportunities for young people to stay on-country, to share intergenerational knowledge between elders and the younger generation - to promote healing, and to keep culture alive.

Watch a short film about Janice's story [here](#).

## LITURGIES AND MASSES FOR TERM ONE

Please see below for class and whole school Mass times for the remainder of the year. We warmly welcome families to celebrate Mass with us.

### Important upcoming dates:

Friday 25th March:	Year 6 Class Mass to celebrate the Annunciation of Our Lord at 9:15am
	2/3 Liturgy to celebrate the Annunciation of Our Lord at 10:30am
Friday 1st April:	Whole School Beginning of Year Mass at 9.15am

## PENOLA PARISH

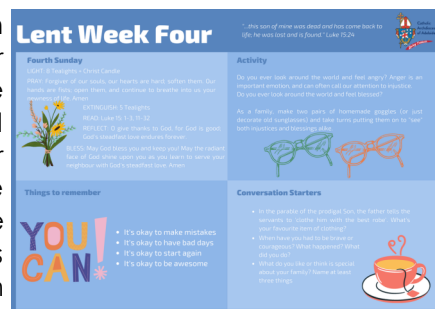
Parish Priest: Fr Arul Dev

### SUNDAY 27TH MARCH: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3,11-3

## FAMILY LENTEN ACTIVITY

I would once again like to draw your attention to the resources produced by the Office For Worship of the Adelaide Archdiocese. This week I share with you their weekly activities for families and encourage you to look at the week 4 activities. This revolves around the Gospel reading from this coming Sunday, the parable of the prodigal son. This parable is all about forgiveness and repentance, an important aspect of the Lenten journey.



Don't forget that you can donate to Project Compassion on behalf of our school using the link below.

<https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/mmmms>

# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS



*photo gallery*

**FLOOD FUNDRAISER**



**YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY**



**HARMONY DAY**

**RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS**

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