

# Newsletter

## Mary MacKillop Memorial School



in all things love

Term 4 Week 6

Friday, 25th November 2022

## Reception to Year 6 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)

## UPCOMING DATES

- November -

- 25 St Catherine Day  
Playgroup (9.30am)  
Year 6 Assembly (2.30pm)
- 28 Occasional Care (8.45am)  
Christmas Celebration and  
Awards Ceremony (5.30pm) +  
Family BBQ
- 29 Joey's Jumpstart (8.45am)  
- December -
- 02 Beachport Surf Lifesaving Day  
**NO PLAYGROUP**
- 05 Occasional Care (8.45am)  
Yr 7 Orientation Day TWC
- 06 Joeys Jumpstart (8.45am)  
Yr 7 Orientation Day TWC
- 08 Immaculate Conception
- 09 Playgroup (9.30am)  
R/1 Assembly
- 12 Occasional Care (8.45am)  
Yr 6 Class Mass (11.30am)  
Reports Go Home
- 14 Whole School End of Year Mass  
(9.15am)  
Farewell Assembly and Guard of  
Honour (2.30pm)
- 15 **Professional Learning Days**  
Student Free Day
- 16 **Professional Learning Days**  
Student Free Day

# Class News

## R/1 Big Day Out

Last week, the Reception and Year One class ventured to Mount Gambier for their Big Day Out. The students visited the Treehouse Adventure Centre, the Blue Lake and Valley Lakes, the Riddoch Arts & Cultural Centre to view the Volcano Film, and the Cave Gardens. They concluded their wonderful day with a shared dinner and a movie back at school. The students had '*the best day ever!*'



# RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

in all things love



# from the principal

Dear Families and Friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

Last Sunday, 20th November was Feast of Christ the King. When Jesus was on earth, many of His followers thought that He was going to be a normal sort of King, with a kingdom and soldiers and everything. Before He died, Jesus said that His Kingdom was not in this world. The Kingdom of Heaven is in the soul of every person who follows Jesus.

*Jesus, you are my King and my God and I love you.  
Help me to be your good servant! Amen*

We are now moving into Year A of the Liturgical Year of the Church and this Sunday will mark the start of the Advent Season. Next Monday, 28th November, we will gather for Morning Gathering in the Hall where we will have a short liturgy for The First Week of Advent. Parents are welcome.

## Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is ready for gifts to be placed beneath it. We ask that in lieu of students buying cards and candy canes for their friends they purchase a little gift for The Giving Tree. If students would like to do something for their friends, homemade cards are always an option.

## R/1 Big Day Out

What a terrific (and tiring) day last Thursday was for our R/1 class! They ventured to Mount Gambier where they spent an action packed day. The most favourite activity was the Treehouse Play Café! The OK Pie Shop for lunch was also a hit, along with meeting Miss Heazlewood's Mum. Special thanks to Eloise for accompanying the students, with Danni and Romi.

## REPORTS

Over the past couple of weeks children have been undertaking tests in literacy and numeracy to gauge their level of growth over the year. The assessment analysis has been used by teachers to inform report writing, along with other data collected from students over the course of the year. Reports will be sent home on Monday 12th December.

The reports contain an individualised comment for each student in the learning areas of Religion, English and Maths and a general comment. They also contain generic comments for Science, HASS, Health and PE, The Arts, Technologies and Italian which indicate the learning experiences for the child over the semester. If you have any questions in regard to your child's report you are encouraged to contact your child's teacher.

## Using Seesaw as a form of communication of learning

Earlier this term I communicated to families that teachers were trialling Seesaw as a form of communication for sharing your child's learning. Uploaded pieces should be accompanied with Learning Intention, Success Criteria, rubric (if deemed necessary), link to the Australian Curriculum, and possibly a feedback comment from teacher. Your feedback on this process so far would be greatly appreciated. This can be communicated directly to your child's classroom teacher or to me.

## Eddee Survey

Thank you to the families who completed the School Community Engagement Survey. The outcomes of the survey will help to inform a professional review of our community engagement by experts in this field. This is an important aspect of the schools strategic planning and I look forward to seeing the results.

## Christmas Carols and Awards Evening

We look forward to coming together as a community on Monday night (28th Nov) for our Christmas Carols and Awards Evening. This evening will begin at 5.30pm sharp under the outdoor stadium. We will take this opportunity to present end of year awards and to present the graduating class of 2022 to the community as well as farewelling staff and students. At the conclusion of the evening there will be a family BBQ.

God Bless

Nicole

*in all things love*





# Community News

## School Captain

We are very excited to announce our School Captains for 2023 Sophie Pearce and Sidney Tucker. They will be outstanding ambassadors for our school. On Monday evening they will be handed the school candle and cross from our 2022 School Captains, Charlie and Milly.

We look forward to Sidney and Sophie taking on this very special role in 2023.



## Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Jax (16th) we hope you had an amazing day.

Happy Birthday to Alice A (2nd) and Mika (4th), we hope you have a great day.

## Mary MacKillop Memorial School Quiz

What a fantastic night! In a tightly contested competition, The Chair and His Table team got the win! The School Board would like to thank all who attended to make this community event such a success – coming together for some laughs and lots of fun was the best medicine as we head into the 'silly season'.

The School Board would particularly like to thank Judy Mountford for being our MC for the evening. Judy did a fabulous job of keeping everything running smoothly. A huge thank you to Squish Gosse for a mountain of behind the scenes work in bringing the evening together.

Thanks to Tom for auctioning the items and finally thanks to everyone that got a table together for the evening. The money raised will go towards the relocation of our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden and new planter boxes.



## CAMP CONNECT AUSTRALIA

A Device-Free, Summer Camp for 8-12 Year Olds

*An Unforgettable Adventure*

Jan 19th-23rd 2023

## SUMMER CAMP

# 2023

Find out More/Enrol at:



[www.campconnectaustralia.com.au](http://www.campconnectaustralia.com.au)



[info@campconnectaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@campconnectaustralia.com.au)

### Why Camp Connect?

- Device-Free for 5 days (4 nights)- time for nature and adventure
- 4:1 Camper to Leader Ratio= an optimal environment for positive connection
- Qualified Team Leaders, Experts in their fields
- Price incl. Transport, Accommodation (Fleurieu Peninsula), Activities, Food, and a Camp T-shirt
- \$650 Early Bird (ends Nov 30th), \$700 Standard, NDIS Funding Accepted, Payment Plans Available

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO PLAY NETBALL IN 2023 Due to anticipated high numbers across juniors please register your interest to play in 2023 (via the link below) by Nov 30 to help the committee plan for the season ahead. Head to our Facebook page Penola Football & Netball Club.



## SENIOR & JUNIOR NETBALL

## REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO PLAY IN 2023

Preseason will begin late January – stay tuned to Facebook and your emails for more info closer to the date.  
GO EAGLES!



MARY MACKILLOP  
PENOLA



# Community News

## Staffing 2023

I am excited to welcome Ashlee Fensom to the staff of Mary MacKillop Memorial School. We wish Ashlee all the very best as she takes on her new roles at MMMS. I know that the Mary MacKillop community will make Ashlee feel very welcome and we look forward to sharing Ashlee's experience as an educator.

It is a privilege to work alongside our dedicated, compassionate and committed staff and I have great pleasure in announcing the following staffing for 2023:

**R/1** – Danielle Heazlewood

**2/3** – Ashlee Fensom and Kaitlyn Lusty

**4/5** – Amy Boyd and Alison Smith

**5/6** – Sam Baxter and Alison Smith

**Leader of Learning** – Sam Baxter

**Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program** – Alison Smith

**The Arts and Choir and Science** – Kaitlyn Lusty

**PE/Health** – to be finalised

**Occasional Care Educator** – Ashlee Fensom

**Admin/Finance Officer** – Janice Coote

**ESO Curriculum** – Jen Eckermann, Romi Eckermann and Rachel Manninen

**School Counsellor** – Dale Domleo

At the end of the year we will farewell Jenny Herbert, who has officially resigned from Catholic Education South Australia. We will also say farewell to Kathy O'Connell who is taking one year's leave and will take up a position as Year 6 teacher in 2023 at Tenison Woods College, Mount Gambier. We wish both Jenny and Kathy all the very best as they spread their wings for new experiences. We are sure that you will both soar.

We also farewell Cobie Walters. Cobie was welcomed into our community at the beginning of Term 3 and has ably led our Occasional Care and been an educator in Year 4/5. Cobie will be returning to her position at St Joseph's in the Riverland in 2023. She will also be looking forward to taking on the role of motherhood, with baby Walters due in

April! Congratulations to Cobie and Simon.

A more detailed farewell will be in our last newsletter of the year in Week 8.

## Sports Day

Yesterday we enjoyed a great Sports Day. The weather was perfect and fantastic sportsmanship was on display as well as healthy competition. Congratulations to Cameron who won the Sports Shield and also the Gardiner Cup, which is contested between the three Houses over the school year for school service. Well done to Charlie and Ruby who were the Junior Sports Champions on the day and to Charlie and Sophie, who took out the Senior Sports Champions.

The parent/student race was once again a highly contested event, which saw the parents out run the students. One of the highlights for the day was the tug of war. All students in all Houses took part in this event and there was much cheering and encouraging on display, with Cameron being strong winners.

A huge thank you to all of the parent helpers. A day like yesterday is not possible without volunteers to give of their time, whether it was during the Junior Tabloid events, field and track events or at the BBQ – you are absolute superstars.

It was wonderful to see the family attendance and support from parents and extended family members. The encouragement was certainly appreciated by all participants.

Finally, I would like to express deep gratitude and thanks to Romi Eckermann and her committee who did hours of work behind the scenes organising the events, preparing the students, setting up and completing all relevant paperwork for the events and races.

## House Points

Cameron	0
McCormack	★ 10
Woods MacKillop	0





# Community News

## Fundraising Levy

At the beginning of the year all families put towards the MMMS fundraising levy. The Mary MacKillop Memorial School Board have allocated these funds for new outdoor furniture to finish off our new outdoor spaces. We look forward to the children utilising this in the near future.

## Scholarships

Mary MacKillop Memorial School is committed to a policy of providing an excellent Catholic education for young people, and in so doing, keeping fees to a minimum so that parents will be encouraged to enrol their children without suffering undue hardship.

As a school we believe and share St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's vision, that no child should be turned away if they wish to attend a Catholic school. Our school was opened by St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods to provide an education for all children in the community and surrounding district, free from discrimination.

Following the vision of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop the Mary MacKillop Memorial School Board will be offering Hardship Scholarships (full or part) to two students each year for two years. We believe that by assisting those who are suffering undue hardship in our current times, we are providing the opportunity for a Catholic education to those who may otherwise find it difficult to access.

If you wish to apply for a Scholarship for your child please visit our website.

Complete the application by Wednesday 7th December and email to Janice Coote at [jcoote@mmms.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jcoote@mmms.catholic.edu.au) or drop your application into the office.

The Hardship Scholarships are available for current or new families and granted with the understanding that successful families commit to giving back to our school community.



**CHRISTMAS STREET PARTY**

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 16**

5.30PM START WITH SANTA ARRIVING AT 6.30PM

POP UP BAR • JUMPY CASTLE  
DELICIOUS FOOD AND DRINKS  
MUSCLE CAR EXPO • VR EXPERIENCES  
HORSE & CARRIAGE RIDES • MUSIC  
SANTA AND MORE

Supported by  
Merrett Logging • Lions Club of Penola  
Penola Foodland • The Royal Oak Hotel • RBCA

**RIDDOCH**  
Business & Community Association

JOIN US AT THE PENOLA WAR MEMORIAL PARK

## Celebrations and farewells

A reminder of events for the end of the year.

### Monday 28th November

Christmas Carols, Awards and Farewells, followed by family BBQ, starting at 5.30pm.

### Friday 2nd December

Beachport Surf Lifesaving Day – whole school (volunteers needed).

### Monday 12th December

Reports go home, Year 6 Class Mass and luncheon, Class swaps for 2023.

### Wednesday 14th December

Thanksgiving whole school Mass (all invited) and End of Year Assembly and Year 6 Farewell @ 2.40 followed by guard of honour farewell for Year 6s.





# Community News

## Flourishing Awards

Congratulations to Kira, Tait, Jackson, Sarah, Oscar, Henna, Lola, Anais, Vinnie and Mika, for receiving a flourish award at last weeks assembly.



**THE RIDDDOCH**  
ARTS + CULTURAL CENTRE

1 Bay Road, Mount Gambier  
OPEN 7 DAYS - 8721 2563  
[www.theriddoch.com.au](http://www.theriddoch.com.au)



**the WONDER ROOM**  
**COMING SOON**

Opening in December The Riddoch invites you to "The Wonder Room," a children's gallery on the upper level of the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre. The space engages young artists in our community and invites families to enjoy creative activities by celebrating all the things that are special about Summer in beautiful Mount Gambier. The Wonder Room is open from 10 December through to the end of February 2023.

An activity to enjoy is colour shadow installation (pictured) where your little ones can dance and move in front of lights, using their movements to create new colour combinations. There will be making tables and an interactive felt pattern wall, as well as extra-large building blocks and more! The Men's Shed Mount Gambier have built a beautiful tree for you to hang your unique bird on as we build a family of colourful birdlife.

This space provides families a free, fun and creative space to enjoy this Summer. For more information follow us on socials @TheRiddoch, or [www.theriddoch.com.au](http://www.theriddoch.com.au)

So many special events happen at The Riddoch Arts & Cultural Centre. Are you receiving our e-news? If not, make sure you sign up via our website, or send us an email at [riddoch@mountgambier.sa.gov.au](mailto:riddoch@mountgambier.sa.gov.au) to enlist. [www.theriddoch.com.au](http://www.theriddoch.com.au)

## Text Absentee Number

When texting the Absentee Line to explain your child's absence from school please make sure you put both their name and reason so it can be recorded properly.

**0459 799 596**

## Admin Trainee

We are seeking an enthusiastic, motivated and reliable person for a 12 month full time Certificate 3 Traineeship.

This position involves front reception and general administration duties including data entry, correspondence and general administration support. Applicants need to demonstrate competent writing skills and be willing to co-ordinate the School's marketing and media presence (newsletter, Facebook posts and website). Applicants must display willingness to work within a team environment and the ability to use initiative and prioritise workloads to meet deadlines.

Applicants must have the ability to relate with children and adults in an educational setting, respond confidently, and have an understanding of the complexity of a school as an organisation. They must be prepared to support the Catholic ethos.

The successful applicant will have extensive experience with all Microsoft Office applications in Windows, superior customer service and communication skills and a friendly and outgoing disposition.

A current Working With Children Check is essential.

This would be an ideal position for a gap year student.

Applications close Friday, December 9th at 5pm.

Enquiries and Applications must quote #1122170 to Group Training Employment and be forwarded to :  
Ivan Stuchbery

Group Training Employment

(PO Box 1748) 173 Commercial Street West  
MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290

Phone: 87212345

Email: [applications@gte.org.au](mailto:applications@gte.org.au)



# Catholic Identity

## Advent

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent and the start of a new church year. Advent is an exciting time where we start to look towards the birth of Christ and the celebrations associated with Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus, the word itself is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which translates to 'coming'.

This act of waiting can often be seen as a difficult one. I know that I am often not keen on waiting, especially in the lead up to Christmas! I have however learnt to find the 'joy' in waiting. The anticipation of the event can often be more exciting than the event itself! By finding 'joy' in waiting we can extend the wonder that is Christmas.

Preparing for Christ is the other aspect of Advent. Catholics do many things to prepare for Christmas. One of the most well known tradition is the Advent wreath in which we light a candle each week. Each candle signifies a different week of Advent and often includes a white candle in the middle. The candles meaning can change, depending on your source, but they generally represent hope, peace/faith, joy and love with the white middle candle represent Christ Himself.

This year we will be holding a short but special Advent prayer as part of our morning gathering each Monday for the remainder of the term. This will begin at 8:45am and be held in the hall. We invite all family and friends to join us for this prayer time.

## Liturgies and Masses

### Term 4

WEEK 9 (Monday 12/12)  
Year 6 Graduation Mass 11.30am

WEEK 9 (Wednesday 14/12)  
Whole School Thanksgiving Mass 9.15am

## Penola Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Dev

**SUNDAY 13th November**  
**1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT (9.00am)**

Gospel:  
Matthew 24: 37-44

## Christ the King—Family Mass

Last Sunday we celebrated the Feast of Christ the King as a community. Archbishop Patrick O'Regan joined us in celebrating this special mass. We also had our sacramental families join us, it was so lovely to see so many of our children participating in Mass and hearing the word of God. I ask that you all keep these children and families in your prayers over the Advent period.



## Advent

*The Season of Hope and Expectation*







# photo gallery

## Sports Day



@marymackillopmemorial



Mary MacKillop Memorial School



Class updates on Seesaw