

Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School



Term 1 Week 8

24th March 2023

Reception to Year 6 Co-Educational Catholic Primary School

5 Portland Street, Penola SA 5277

Telephone: (08) 8737 2902 www.mmms.catholic.edu.au

in all things love

UPCOMING DATES

- March -

- 27 Occasional Care (8:45am)
SAPSASA District Golf Day
(Penola)
- 28 TWC Family gathering (6:00pm)
TWC 2023 Middle School
Information Evening (7:15pm)
- 31 Playgroup (9:30am)

- April -

- 03 Occasional Care (8:45am)
SAPSASA Softball (3rd to the 5th)
 - 06 Holy Thursday
 - 07 Good Friday
Public Holiday
 - 10 Easter Monday
Public Holiday
 - 11 Resurrections Liturgy (9:00am)
 - 12 SAPSASA District Athletics Day
End of Term Disco (4:30pm)
 - 14 Last day of Term
Playgroup (9:30am)
 - 25 ANZAC Day
- April -
- 01 First Day of Term 2
Occasional Care (8:45am)
 - 05 SAPSASA Swimming Adelaide
Playgroup (9:30am)
 - 08 Occasional Care (8:45am)
World of Maths Day
 - 09 SAPSASA Hockey Trials
Principal Tour/Open Morning at
Tenison Woods College (9:00am)

Class News

Year 2/3

This term for HASS- Geography we are looking at Australia. Each child is focusing on their own individualised state and completing research on this. They were given guided questions to research and discovered how much the internet really knows, especially when we click on the blue writing!! Some fun facts we have discovered are:

- Queensland is the home of the Great Barrier Reef- Anna
- Queensland likes the rugby- Anais
- Northern Territory has a lot of animals like the greater bilby, central rock rat and northern quoll - Oscar
- South Australia has koalas, kangaroo and emu's- Sophie
- Some animals in Queensland are bilby's, fruit bats and possums- Grace
- South Australia has rainbow lorikeets – Milly
- Northern Territory has inland taipan, bush tail possum, snake neck turtle, ghost bat- Elijah
- Tasmania has the world's cleanest air- Niamh
- South Australia is the home of the most Indigenous artefacts- Micheal
- South Australia was freely settled and other states weren't- Levi
- Queensland has an area of 1,727,000 km and is the second largest state- Abby
- Tasmania has the oldest tree in the world- Robert
- For Harmony Day we discussed ways we can be inclusive to create Harmony in the world. We created this puzzle piece to show how we can work together.



**RAISING HEARTS
AND MINDS**

From the principal

Dear family and friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

I would like to extend a heart felt thank you to Sam Baxter for undertaking the role of Acting Principal in my absence while I was on long service leave in Weeks 5 and 6 – which probably were the busiest weeks of Term 1. Sam did an amazing job, along with the support of all staff members. We are certainly lucky to have such a competent team at MMMS.

Harmony Week

This week we celebrated Harmony Week. As a school we wore a splash of orange and participated in a special Harmony Day liturgy led by our teachers. Being in harmony is part of our everyday values of living. We highlighted the cultural diversity of our nation and how to be inclusive of all. Students were challenged to discover what their family cultural heritage is, and from the responses that I received on Wednesday, many students had that conversation at home. We are certainly a diverse community.

NAPLAN

Our Year 3 and 5 students have been tackling the NAPLAN tests predominately online (with the exception of Year 3 writing), in Weeks 7 and 8 this term.

NAPLAN is a window into how our students are doing, and even more of a window into how the school is doing. As a school we rely on the data from other assessments that are conducted throughout the year, as well as NAPLAN, to guide our next steps in teaching and learning for each child.

However, there have been articles in the Advertiser in the lead up to NAPLAN it would be remiss of me not to mention what was revealed. The particular article the 'NALAN results Revealed' on Wednesday 22nd February was an expose on the 2022 NAPLAN results across the state.

I'm not a huge fan of these tables and comparing apples with oranges, nor am I a fan of the Advertiser, however, at the time they did contact me for a comment due to our school being the highest performing Primary School in the South-East region. The article gave an insight into where our school sits when compared to the state and in the region. Some key stats were:

A clear top of all Primary Schools in the South-East
·17th of all regional Primary Schools in SA (226 in total)
3rd highest ranking of regional Catholic Schools in SA
For a long time, we've kept our achievements private. But its so crucial that this is acknowledged and understood by at least our community, if not the wider community around us. I would like to congratulate all who contribute to the ongoing achievements of our students and our school, but particularly I would like to congratulate our students, who are thirsty learning kids I know! They rock positivity towards gaining greater knowledge about the world in which they live. The two pillars of a catholic school are faith and learning.

Gratitude Corner

Many thanks to the Penola Rodeo Committee who have kindly donated \$500 to the school. The SRC will use these funds to student led initiatives for school improvements.

We also thank Bendigo Bank for their kind donation of \$500 under the Bendigo Bank Schools Essentials initiative. These funds will be used to purchase essential items for students in need.

Regional Professional Learning Day

Last Tuesday the three regional Catholic schools gathered to gain further knowledge and build capacity in devising assessment tasks, particularly working with the Crossways Curriculum. As always these days are crucial in every teachers professional development to build capacity and confidence. Working with other educators and building networks is a key focus for our region and assists in collaboration and moderation. We thank Tenison Woods College for hosting this significant day.

We look forward to continuing building this network of learning throughout the year.

God bless
Nicole



in all things love

Community News

Birthdays

We wish a Happy Birthday to Max (2nd) and Angus (4th). We hope you will all have a wonderful day.

Flourishing Awards

Congratulations to Indi, Mika, Juliet, Pearl, Saige, Lucas, Robert and Angus who received Flourishing awards at assembly this week.



House Points

Cameron 122

McCormack 76

Woods MacKillop 90

Absentees

A reminder that if your child is absent from school, for any reason, it is important that this is communicated with the school. The Catholic Education system has advised all schools to follow up on unresolved absences with families. Your support and communication in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sport

SAPSASA Swimming

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to compete in SAPSASA swimming in Adelaide in Week 9. Lilly, Kira, Tait, Chloe and Sophie.



SAPSASA Softball

Congratulations to Tait, Ellie, Lilly, Sophie, Ben and Frank who will be representing the mid South-East in Softball in Week 10. Good Luck!



SAPSASA Athletics

SAPSASA athletics trials will occur next Wednesday and Thursday. All students who have nominated are to wear their PE uniform. And SAPSASA District Athletics Day will be occurring on 12th April. We will be taking a team of 30+ students.

SAPSASA Football

Tryouts are currently being held.

SAPSASA Golf

The District Golf Day will be held on Monday 27th March at Penola Golf Club.

Community News

Counsellor's Corner

Dale is currently on leave visiting her beautiful family in South Africa. In her absence I thought it might be a good idea to touch base with Safety Online.

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.

A few great things to consider and we assist our children to navigate the online world.

Special Visitors this Week

Thank you to Brad and Heath for calling into Mary MacKillop Memorial School with the AFL and AFLW Premiership Cups for 2023! Not sure who was more excited – the students or the teachers.

The important message from Brad was about being active in our lives, showing resilience and mostly having fun!



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.

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

You can read more about our commitment to the wellbeing 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>

Old Playground Equipment

Out with the old ... In with the new.

Our playground is being dismantled to make space for a brand new adventure playground! Watch this space for more updates.



Catholic Identity

Project Compassion

In this week's Project Compassion story, we learn about Thu from Vietnam. When Thu was 12 years old, he stepped on an unexploded land mine and lost his leg.

Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. Thu also took on the role of caring for his wife, Linh, after she suffered a stroke.

Determined to turn their lives around, Thu and Linh joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, run by Caritas Australia's local partner in Vietnam. Thu received a loan to open a barber shop.

For Thu, the greatest impact the program has had is enabling the change in Linh's physical and mental wellbeing. With the support of a physiotherapist, Linh can now walk short distances with the aid of a walking stick.

Watch Thu's story here: www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/thu-story-video

Support Project Compassion today:
www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion



Liturgies and Masses

Term 1

WEEK 10 (MONDAY 3/4 - FRIDAY 7/4)

Holy Week

Harmony Week

Harmony Week celebrates Australia's cultural diversity.

It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone, as revealed in its motto- 'Everyone Belongs.'

Loving God you have created each of us in your image and likeness and so we are individual expressions of your love. Deepen our appreciation of each other so that we create in our communities places of dignity, harmony, enthusiasm, learning and prayer. Renew our hearts so that they may reach the full potential that you call us to. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.



Project Compassion - For all Future Generations

This year, the theme asks us to think about the great yes that Mary spoke when the angel told her she was to become the mother of Jesus. She freely accepted God's invitation to take up a unique place in the history of the human family.

The prayer Mary shared with her cousin Elizabeth says, "all generations will call me blessed". Her yes is for all future generations. May ours be too!

Fourth Week of Lent (Week beginning Monday 20th March)



photo gallery

St Patrick's Day and St Joseph's Feast Day Acoustic Music Gathering





photo gallery

Acoustic Music Gathering Harmony Day



2024 Year 7 Middle School Information Evening - Penola



Tuesday 28 March 2023, 7:15pm.
Mary Mackillop Memorial School, Penola

We invite all prospective 2024 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 Tenison 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 Middle School, the Gilgip Wanga Learning Community.



BUSES RUNNING DAILY FROM PENOLA,
COONAWARRA, KALANGADDOO & 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

McDonald's 5 – 7 yrs MAGIC HOOPS BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Do you want to be involved in Millicent Basketball?



Millicent Basketball provides Children with the opportunity to stay active, make new friends, learn new skills and have fun.

The new Term 2 Hoops Season commences on Monday 8th May or Tuesday 9th May and plays through until almost the end of the term. **Monday sessions run from 4:15pm till 5pm** and **Tuesday sessions run from 4:15 till 5pm** at the Peter Seebohm Stadium. Sessions involve an introduction to basketball, as well as skill development while having fun. McDonalds Hoops is aimed at children between the ages of 5 – 7 who are interested in basketball.

Monday sessions will only be formed if there is enough interest.

Payment

Children who did not participate in 2022, the fee for the term is \$65, which includes a Hoops t-shirt and weekly training sessions. Children who did participate, the fee for the new term is \$55 (excludes t-shirt). Payment must be paid before the first session. To be a-part of this season, fill out the form below. Then, take the attached form and payment to **Denton Sportspower by Thursday 4th May** or if its more convenient because you live out of town you can fill out and email the registration form to mdiba458@outlook.com and pay on the first night or use sports voucher.

Please ensure all details are filled out correctly. On the bottom of the registration form

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Peter Seebohm on 0438 388 073

McDonalds Magic Hoops Registration Form 2023 (Term 2)

**SPORTS
VOUCHERS**

If you wish to use your sports voucher, please attach the voucher to this form and pay nothing. This will be your payment for both terms.

PLEASE CIRCLE WHICH SESSION YOUR CHILD WILL BE ATTENDING: MONDAY / TUESDAY

Full Name.....

Age..... Date of Birth..... Sex: Male / Female

Address.....

Suburb..... Postcode.....

Contact Number.....Email.....

Please indicate payment method used:

Paid cash at Denton's Sportspower or use sports voucher

Please circle: Child who have participated in previous season \$55

New children who have not participated in the previous season \$65

I confirm my child has not already claimed a voucher in 2023

Child's information

First name: Family name:

Child date of birth: / / Gender: Male Female Gender diverse

Is this the first time your child has joined this sport / dance organisation? Yes No

Has your child been identified as living with a disability? Yes No

Is your child from a culturally and linguistically diverse background? Yes No

Is your child from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background? Yes No

Medicare information

Medicare number: Reference number:

OR Australian visa number:

Parent/Guardian information

First name: Family name:

Street address: Suburb:

Postcode: Contact number:

Email:

An email notification may be sent to the above email address (assuming it is correct) advising the authorisation of the voucher used for your child

To be presented at an approved Sports Voucher provider. To find your nearest provider or for more information please visit www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au. Not redeemable for cash, only a reduction to membership/registration fees. Redemption value not to exceed \$100.00. In presenting this voucher I give permission to the Sports Voucher provider to share my information with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR). The ORSR may share de-identified information with third parties (eg other agencies of government, research institutions, etc) to improve the administration, outcomes or effectiveness of the Program.