

Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Term 2 Week 8

Friday, 21st June 2024

Reception to Year 6 Co-Educational Catholic Primary School

5 Portland Street, Penola SA 5277

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



*go on with strength
and courage*

UPCOMING DATES

- June -

- 24 Occasional Care
SAPSASA Netball (2 days)
Nativity of John the Baptist
- 25 Joey's Jumpstart
- 26 Lions Mad Minute (Lucindale)
Combined School Board Meeting
at TWC
- 27 Basketball Session 3
- 28 Playgroup
End of Term Disco
Winter Warmers Day
Assembly R/1

- July -

- 1 Occasional Care
 - 2 Joey's Jumpstart
 - 5 Yr 2/3/4 Basketball (Millicent)
- LAST DAY OF TERM 2**
Playgroup
SCHOOL DISMISSAL @ 2:15PM

- 22 Term 3 Commences

- August -

- 5 School Photos

Class News

Year 4



**RAISING HEARTS
AND MINDS**

go on with strength and courage

from the principal

Dear Families and Friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

The Way We Are #wecare

Each individual's dignity and wellbeing is important at Mary MacKillop Memorial School, where we care. Respecting the desire and possibility for connection rather than disconnection in relationships is paramount. We do this through growth coaching conversations that strengthen the connections between relationships and learning. The principle of resilient impact assists us to respect relationships and encourage personal accountability without 'shame and blame.' When the actions of a student or a group of students causes harm and upset, those involved in the particular problem are called to a coaching conversation, where we focus on What's happened? What's important?, and How we will act? This conversation draws out people's stories surrounding the incident. Students are given a voice and asked to accept responsibility for their actions, make things right and make agreements about how things will be in future. This practise is our culture and encompasses our Catholic ethos and Mission, Vision statements and most importantly our Josephite Values.

Pulse Check-In

Over week 5 and 6 our students have had the opportunity to take part in an online survey which is designed to provide feedback to their class teacher as to how their wellbeing is tracking. We have been implementing this process over the past 3 years at the mid point of each term, therefore collecting quite a lot of data. This is just one of the many indicators/measures of keeping our students "well". If you have any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing, please contact your student's class teacher, Bec Baker (School Counsellor) or myself.

Professional Learning Days

On Thursday the 6th of June, staff from Mary MacKillop Memorial School and St Anthony's Catholic Primary school gathered in Penola for a day of professional learning. The focus for the day was *Purpose and Principles of Assessment and Assessment Task design* through the lens of the Mathematics curriculum.

This has been an ongoing focus for both schools, linking in with professional learning from earlier this year. The day was broken up into two parts. The morning was focused on deepening staff understanding of assessment. Staff also spent time on creating rich assessment tasks.

On Friday teachers and ESOs worked with David Kelly from the Life Buoyancy Institute. Our partnership with LBI has been ongoing since 2021. The intent of the day was to identify well-being, learning issues, and opportunities for our students that might be addressed through the explicit and implicit teaching and coaching of IMPACT tools and strategies and to priorities potential projects for implementation in our school.

go on with strength and courage

from the principal

St Anthony's Feast Day

Yesterday the Year 6 students, Mr Baxter and I were lucky enough to be invited to celebrate with St Anthony's Catholic Primary School for their Feast Day.

We had a wonderful day, forming connections, engaging in lots of fun activities and enjoying learning about St Anthony's patron Saint.

We thank the St Anthony's community for their generous hospitality and look forward to welcoming members of their community to our Feast Day celebrations next term.

I would also like to say a special thank you to our Yr 6 students who represented our school with pride and maturity on the day. You are all super stars!



Preservice Teachers

As part of our continued support to assist those undertaking their degree in teaching, we will welcome two fourth year preservice teachers next term. We look forward to getting to know both Molly and Ella during their Term 3 placement with us.

Reports

Teachers are currently finalising student reports. We use a range of accumulated assessments from the planned learning experiences taught throughout Term 1 and 2 to provide a summary achievement report for parents/caregivers. You will receive your child's report on Monday the 1st of July.

Wishing all a wonderful weekend,

God Bless,

Nicole.

SCULPTURE BY JUDITH ROLEVINK
ADELAIDE 2009

go on with strength and courage

Catholic Identity

St Anthony's Feast Day School Visit

This week, our Year 6 students had the privilege of visiting St Anthony's Catholic Primary School in Millicent as part of their 125th-year celebrations to commemorate the Feast of St Anthony. Upon arrival, we participated in a school-wide Mass dedicated to St Anthony, where we had the unique opportunity to view a first-class relic of the Saint - a piece of his skin. Fr Peter also blessed us with the relic, making it a truly memorable experience.

Following the Mass, we returned to school and spend the remainder of the day immersed in activities alongside the St Anthony's community. We were warmly welcomed with Krispy Kreme Donuts and shared recess with the St Anthony's students. Throughout the day, our students engaged in various activities planned by the St Anthony's staff, including learning about St Anthony's life and miracles, painting rocks with fish motifs, crafting bread in the shape of a fleur-de-lis, participating in a scavenger hunt, and completing a quiz on St Anthony. Many found the scavenger hunt particularly exciting!

For me, the most rewarding aspects of the day were witnessing the bonds and friendships formed and strengthened between our students and theirs. It was heartwarming to see the St Anthony's students embrace ours in their classrooms and games, and equally gratifying to see our students take on leadership roles, offering support and guidance to their younger peers throughout activities. I was especially proud to hear feedback about our student's exemplary behaviour, including their helpfulness, respectfulness towards staff, and community-minded actions such as picking up litter.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Liza Cousins, Principal of St Anthony's, and Sharn de Nys, APRIM, as well as the broader St Anthony's community, for inviting our children to participate in this memorable day. I eagerly anticipate reciprocating their kindness when we host our Mary MacKillop Feast Day celebrations on August the 8th.

Key Facts about St Anthony

St. Anthony is typically depicted in traditional Franciscan attire, often holding a lily, a Bible, and the infant Jesus.

- The lily symbolises purity of heart, a common motif among many saints.
- His holding of the Bible underscores his profound connection to the word of God.
- St. Anthony is frequently portrayed with the infant Jesus, recalling a notable event from his travels. Once, while praying late at night in a wealthy Lord's lodging, the room suddenly filled with a brilliant light brighter than the sun. Peering through the keyhole, the Lord witnessed St. Anthony in the presence of Jesus, illuminating the room with divine radiance.
- St. Anthony's Bread refers to charitable activities or donations made in honour of St. Anthony, often aimed at helping the poor and needy, reflecting his legacy of compassion and aid to those in distress.
- Fish are often associated with St. Anthony. When he grew frustrated with the townspeople for not listening to his sermons, he decided to preach to the fish instead. Seeing multitudes of fish gather to hear him, the townspeople realised they should pay attention to his message.

Penola Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Zwaans

Sunday 23rd JUNE

At 9:00am

TWELTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20 - 35

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE

At 4:30pm

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26 - 34

Community News

Birthdays

In week 9 we wish both Lizzy and Paige a Happy Birthday for the 27th of June.

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

House Points

Cameron 209

McCormack 207

Woods MacKillop 206

Flourishing Awards

This afternoon we congratulated Harry, Fred, Robert Anais, Chloe and Camilla with Flourishing Awards. Well done!



Mid-Year Intake 2024

If your child turns 5 on or before the 31st October, they are able to start mid-year. If you are interested in your child starting mid-year, please contact the school as soon as possible. All reception mid-year intakes are **fee free**.

Early Learning

Is your child 3, 4 or 5 years old and not at school yet? Our Early Learning Program is an opportunity for them to become familiar with the environment and how it operates. Hands-on structured learning experiences guided by the Early Years Learning Framework assist young children to explore and gain independence to prepare them for the future!

We are excited to announce that we will be offering our Early Learning Program on Mondays and Tuesdays beginning next week, where a child's second session for the two remaining weeks will be free.

We will then continue to offer this service to our Penola community in Term 3 and 4.

Children make many friends in these sessions. Enquiries welcome to learn more.

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.

Playgroup

Our community Playgroup takes place on a Friday morning from 9:30 am - 11:00 am. It is an opportunity for families to come together and play together, capably coordinated by our Playgroup coordinator Ebonie Moulton. Come and enjoy a cuppa and catch up, while your child has a number of playful learning activities to explore in a safe and welcoming environment.

Community News

Counsellor's Corner

In our last newsletter we discussed what bullying is, compared to other behaviours such as conflict with another person. Today we will look at different types of bullying, and what to do if you're being bullied.

Bullying can be direct (happening to your face) or indirect (happening 'behind your back'), and overt (very obvious and observable) or covert (subtle and hard to prove). There are a few different types of bullying, including:

Cyberbullying - stuff like mean texts, emails, posts, images or videos.

Verbal Bullying - using words to make you feel upset, angry, embarrassed, etc. e.g. teasing, name calling, yelling, etc.

Physical Bullying - stuff that hurts or harms your body, e.g. kicking, tripping, hitting. Physical bullying can also include things like damaging your possessions.

Social Bullying - stuff done to hurt your reputation. It can be verbal, like spreading rumours or playing mean jokes, or non-verbal like pretending to not hear a person when they speak or leaving them out.

I'm being bullied - what should I do?

Stay Calm - don't react emotionally (people who bully usually want you to get angry or upset).

Report It - tell trustworthy adults and **keep talking to them until the bullying stops**; reporting it helps keep people safe (and isn't the same as 'dobbing' which is about getting someone into trouble over nothing).

Get Support - bullying can affect your mental health and self-worth - having the support of family, friends, teachers and/or professionals can make a big difference.

Remember to approach your child's teacher or staff at our school if you have any concerns for our child's wellbeing. In the next newsletter I hope to look at cyber safety, and how to ensure your child is being safe on the internet.

Basketball Sessions

Recently all classes have enjoyed fine tuning basketball skills with Jackson Bowden from the Millicent and District Basketball Association. There has been much fun and excitement as students have passed, dribbled, shot and defended all across the basketball court.

Sport SAPSASA Netball

We wish Lilly and Lola all the best for next week competing in Adelaide for netball.

SAPSASA Football

We are incredibly proud of Jim Manninen and Charlie Harris for being selected from a large pool of candidates to represent the Mid South East at the recent SAPSASA Football Carnival in Adelaide. They both demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship by encouraging their teammates, listening attentively to their coach, and putting in their best effort in every game.

Charlie played with passion in every match, applying relentless pressure, taking solid marks, and making crucial tackles that prevented goals. His confidence grew throughout the carnival, culminating on the final day when he made a spectacular overhead mark. He regularly stood out among the best players, thanks to his excellent decision-making skills, accurate goal kicking, and remarkable defensive efforts, including an exceptional smother.



Community News

Curriculum Corner

Hello families,

For this week's *Curriculum Corner*, I need your help. so far, we have explored automaticity, fluency, and a bit of Cognitive Load Theory. These are three essential elements of modern teaching practises, and they play a significant role in the methods used by staff at Mary MacKillop Memorial School. They are also topics I am passionate about!

As we continue with the Curriculum Corner, I want you to make sure that I am not only sharing current teaching practices but also addressing the questions that our community has. That's why, for week 8, I am seeking feedback from you, the parents and friends of MMMS.

Please share any questions you have about education and teaching at Mary MacKillop Memorial School via the link below. I will do my best to answer them in the context of our school. Whether you're curious about feedback and reporting, homework, reading (at school and at home), or anything else. I want to hear from you.

<https://forms.office.com/r/SDqPT5azUw>

Sam Baxter
Leader of Learning

Penola Community Library

A proposal has been put forward to move the Penola Community Library from its current location at Penola High School to the Penola Visitor Information Centre.

All families should have received a survey letter this week. We strongly encourage you to complete it.

The advantages for the relocation of the Penola Community Library will be open the same hours as the Visitor Information Centre, this includes open until 5:00pm, weekends and school holidays. We believe that being centrally located will also be easier for us as a school to make regular visits.

Penola High School will not lose access to a library, as a school library will continue to operate for all students.

National Consistent Collection of Data

Every year all schools are required to collect data on students with a disability for whom the curriculum is adjusted in some way(s). The National Consistent Collection of Data on school students with a disability reinforces the obligations schools have under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. It counts the number of students who are supported under these obligations based on the professional judgement of a teacher and their knowledge and understanding of their student's, consultation with leadership and outside agencies and professionals. This also includes students with a Personalised Plan for Learning and individualised Education Plan. This is an anonymous process, and no student is identified by name or location of school. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me. More information can be found at the NCCD website.

Premiers Reading Challenge at Mary MacKillop Memorial School

The Premier's Reading Challenge runs from March until the beginning of September and is designed to encourage students to read a variety of books to deepen their love of reading. What do we need to do? Your child will have a PRC form to complete - they need to read 12 books between now and September! How do we know what books to read? You can use the handy PRC stickers to identify suitable books. If you have any questions pop into the library and ask Mrs E or check out the website:

<https://premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/>

Community News

Playgroup

The MMMS Playgroup now has their own Facebook Page and Group, run by our Playgroup coordinator Ebonie Moulton. Included in the Facebook Page is a link for expressions of interest. Check out the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/YfWqHpaNA6>

Playgroup is held every Friday morning from 9:30am - 11:00am. All you need is yourself, our children and a gold coin donation. Come and enjoy the inviting learning environment where experiences are set up for you to engage in with your child.



Occasional Care

Occasional Care 2024

To book please follow the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/GBzjFsZsbi>

Come along to Occasional Care each Monday.

ALL families from the Penola and wider community are welcome to attend.

Early Learning now takes place on both a Monday and Tuesday, with the option of a half or full day. Leah Kuiper, a qualified educator, plans new and exciting experiences from the Early Years Framework for all children aged 3 - 5.

A full day begins at 8:45am with pick up at 3:00pm and only costs \$25.00. Half day is \$15.00, with pick up or drop off at 11:45am - 12:00pm. Children need to bring a water bottle, morning and afternoon snack, lunch and a hat.

Call the school today to secure your child's spot next week. Seven is our current capacity, and we have recently been at that number.



MARY MACKILLOP
PENOLA

Mary MacKillop Memorial School
EARLY LEARNING
*An early years service for families of 3- 5 year olds
Facilitated by a qualified educator Leah Kuiper*

**Now on a
Monday and Tuesday!**
For this term, if you attend for one
day, get the next day free of charge.

All children from
Penola and
surrounds
welcome

**MONDAY &
TUESDAY**
Drop Off: 8:45 am
Pick up:
Half day: 11:45am
Full Day: 3:00pm

**Half Day
\$15
Full day
\$25**



For more information
8737 2902
lkuiper@mmms.catholic.edu.au
Use the QR code for
information and to book



Community News

megan heffernan.
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY



Circle of Security Parenting

TERM 3, 2024

DELIVERED BY MEGAN HEFFERNAN,
PAEDIATRIC OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AND
CIRCLE OF SECURITY PARENTING FACILITATOR

At times, as parents we may feel lost or without a clue about what our child might need from us, and making sense of what feels like challenging and baffling behaviours adds to the exhaustion.



Imagine what it might feel like if you were able to make sense of what your child was really asking from you. *"The Circle of Security Parenting"* program is based on decades of research about how secure parent-child relationships can be supported and strengthened.

To connect with some of the foundations of this program, please click the link below and scroll down to an introductory video.

<https://www.circleofsecurityinternational.com/resources-for-parents/>

Please also feel encouraged to explore the Circle of Security International website, in particular the [parent blog](#) which is something I find many parents relate to, and view Circle of Security International on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM:

-  Understand your child's emotional world by learning to read their emotional needs
-  Understand how your child may communicate these needs through their behaviour
-  Support your child's emotional regulation
-  Support the development of your child's self esteem
-  Experience more confidence and clarity in how to respond to your child's needs
-  Honor your innate wisdom and desire for your child to experience security in their relationship with you and others

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, EMAIL mheffernan.ot@gmail.com



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