

St Mary MacKillop School

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Newsletter – Week 8 Wednesday, 20th March, 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

CELEBRATIONS FOR ST JOSEPH

Yesterday we celebrated the feast of our patron saint, St Joseph, with a Liturgy, sausage sizzle lunch and lunch-time activities run by the House Captains and Year 6-8 students.

Thank you to Francesca Tully for her planning and preparations towards the Liturgy and to all students who assisted with roles in the Liturgy. It was lovely to have many family members join us for the celebrations.

THE ANNUNCIATION

The Annunciation of the Lord is celebrated on Monday, 25 March. The Annunciation of the Lord refers to the time when the angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary to tell her that she would be the mother of the saviour. Mary was the first to hear and believe that God would do what he promised the world. We can follow the example of Mary and say "yes" to God.

HOLY WEEK

This Sunday, 24 March will be Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, leading us to Easter. Students and staff will be involved in Holy Week prayer and reflection times over the coming weeks. Parents and family members are welcome to join us for any of these times as we journey with Jesus through Holy Week and Easter:

- Friday 22 March 2.40pm: whole school gather for Palm Sunday re-enactment.
- Monday 25 March 8.50am: whole school prayer with morning notices for The Garden Of Gesthemene
- Wednesday 27 March 2.40pm: whole school The Last Supper
- Thursday 28 March 2.30pm: whole school Stations Of The Cross
- Tuesday 2 April 8.50am: whole school Resurrection

RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY

This Friday, 24 March is Ride 2 School Day. It's all about being active on the journey to and from school. Where distance or time is a barrier, why not try parking further away from the school and riding or walking the rest of the way. More than 350,000 students across the nation will ride, walk, scoot and skate to school this Friday. Why not join in and be one of them!



NAPLAN

Thank you everyone for your support with NAPLAN testing last week and this week. This is very much appreciated and helps it to run smoothly. Thank you to all staff involved in facilitating the testing, in particular, thank you to Francesca Tully for preparations and facilitation. Well done to all students involved and thank you to parents for your positive support of the process.

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Thank you to everyone who supported our school by attending the School Board AGM last night. Reports on 2023 were prepared and/or presented by:

Michelle Miller	Principal
Tristan Graham	Chairperson
Emily Donnell	WHS
Lisa Cooper	OSHC / Vacation Care
Francesca Tully	REC – Catholic Identity and Mission
Liz Reid	Finance
Lisa Caffyn	Middle School
Annette Morphett	Leader Of Learning R-9
Danie Miller	P & F President (report presented at P & F AGM)

Thank you to all of these people for the effort put into preparing and presenting the reports.

Tristan Graham will continue in the role as Chair of our Board. Amie Price will continue as the Staff representative and has also accepted the role of Secretary for our Board meetings. Sarah Clifford will continue as the P & F representative.

Laura Bald and Donny Duncan have resigned their positions on the Board after 12-month tenure. Thank you Laura and Donny, for your willingness to join the Board and for your contributions.

There are still some positions to finalise and we will keep you informed about this.

BOARD BUDDIES

We will continue community connections with our School Board Buddies. Each member of School Board will have a number of families allocated to them, they will contact all new families to our school to introduce themselves and offer to be a contact and connection for them. School Board members will contact you by phone for a chat some time over the end of Term 1 and into Term 2. New families to our school, if you do not wish your phone number to be passed on to a School Board member, please fill in the return slip in this Newsletter. Phone numbers will be treated with the greatest confidentially and will not be used for any other purpose or passed on for any other purpose.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Over the past six weeks our Dolphins swimming team have been training hard under the guidance of Lisa Caffyn and Lisa Hanson. This Friday, the team will travel to Clare for their carnival.

Good luck to our team: Amaya R, Eloise C, Isabelle C, Trinity M, Zara C, Kye S, Jack R, Miranda A, Cody D, Scarlett R, Lucy A, Liam R, Isla P and Harriet C.

GIRLS' KNOCKOUT CRICKET

We have a girls' cricket team heading off to Nuriootpa tomorrow for their first game of a Knockout competition. Thank you to Mr Kerin and Mr Dennis who are coaching and assisting the team.

Good luck to Nevayah K, Sophia T, Madeline D, Eloise C, Isabelle C, Amaya R, Zara C, Zarah B, Armani D, Scarlett R and Isabella D.

YORKE PENINSULA SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Good luck to Ryder S who will compete at the secondary schools athletics carnival tomorrow in Kadina.

SCHOOL UNIFORM WEEK 9

School uniform for Week 9 will be back to the normal class requirement of formal uniform, and sport uniform on dance and PE days. Please note that the formal uniform is the school polo with gaberdine shorts, not sport uniform shorts. Thank you.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Included with today's newsletter are Parent/Teacher Interview appointment times for families who have booked an appointment to see their child/ren's teacher.

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Ms Michelle Miller PRINCIPAL

2024 NEW FAMILIES BOARD BUDDY RETURN SLIP

I DO NOT consent to my phone number being shared with a School Board member for the purpose of them contacting me.

Parent Name:______ Parent Signature:______

Date:_____

FROM THE REC

ST JOSEPH'S DAY

Yesterday's celebration of St Joseph's Day was a special day not only because Joseph is the father of Jesus, but he was also the reason we have the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart which St Mary MacKillop started.

We know little of this gentleman who lived 2000 years ago, except that he was righteous in the Lord and was a descendant of the royal line of David. Did you know that even though the gospels mention him, you will not find him saying anything, only his thoughts?

St Joseph's actions spoke louder than any words could. He is the model of the man in the shadows who faithfully and courageously supports the salvation story through his obedience, his acceptance of his role as protector and provider, and his unusual sensitivity and responsiveness in a world where life was often rough, unpleasant, and often violent.

He was a man who worked hard to support his small holy family; a man who worked with hands that would become rough at his workman's bench.

St Joseph's Day marks a very important day for our school community, as we think of the life of Joseph and his qualities and we strive to live these throughout our lives. Joseph cared for Mary and Jesus, he was a faithful man who did God's will, he was a carpenter, a wonderful father and was very hardworking. Today we ask that God blesses all of us so that we may be able to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and his father on earth, St Joseph.

St Mary MacKillop chose St Joseph as the Patron saint for the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart because the St Mary MacKillop and her sisters follow the 5 virtues of St Joseph.

Sr Shirley was the local Josephite Sister. As St Mary MacKillop shared boiled lollies with children when she visited them, Sr Shirley follows in her footsteps. At every significant event, she sends me some money to buy some treats for the students and staff. Yesterday the students enjoyed a box of smarties and some gummies. The staff were also remembered with some boxes of Lindt chocolates. Thank you, Sr Shirley, for your generosity. As one student said "Please tell Sr Shirley she is the best. I like how she is following in the footsteps of St Mary MacKillop. Don't forget to wish her a Happy St Joseph's Day because you know, she's a Josephite sister."

To conclude the festivities, at lunch time, the sports captains set up some games for the students. As you can see in the photos, they had a lot of fun.

Mrs Francesca Tully RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

