



St Mary MacKillop School

NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 Week 9 Wednesday, 25th March 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I sincerely thank you all for your ongoing positive support and understanding. Thank you for keeping in touch and open lines of communication with the school as more and more families remain at home to keep healthy and safe. Thank you too for your good wishes for all of our staff here at school, we appreciate it!

At St Mary MacKillop School, our staff are committed to continuing to provide excellent quality learning opportunities for our students despite the challenging time brought upon us with COVID-19.

We ask for your understanding and patience as teachers are still planning, delivering and assessing learning programs for students who are attending school as well as providing this for students who are at home. As this is a new teaching and learning environment for all involved, please be patient and communicate respectfully and regularly with the school and teachers.

We are preparing to deliver the best possible education for all children while they learn from home. New learning opportunities will be continually explored throughout this period of 'hybrid' learning – at school and at home. We look forward to working together to ensure your child stays healthy and continues their learning in a supportive and engaging environment.

As you will understand learning tasks and expectations vary greatly from R-7 and so class teachers will tailor learning and accountability to fulfil curriculum and assessment requirements for their particular year levels. We will continue to communicate with you as staff work out ways to provide learning both electronically and hard copy.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

- Wed 25 Today is the Feast Day of The Annunciation of the Lord
Fri 27 No lunch orders

APRIL

- Tue 7 School Board Meeting 7.30pm (TBC)
Thu 9 Term 1 concludes 3.00pm
Fri 10 Good Friday
Sun 12 Easter Sunday
Mon 13 Easter Monday
Tue 14-Fri 17 Vacation Care
Mon 20-Fri 24 Vacation Care
Sat 25 ANZAC Day
Mon 27 Term 2 commences

PARISH WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Star of the Sea, Wallaroo
Saturday 6.00pm

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta
Sunday 8.30am

Sacred Heart, Kadina
Sunday 10.00am

St Margaret's, Port Broughton
Sunday 12.00 noon

Mission Statement

Inspired by our Catholic faith and in partnership with families and our wider community, St Mary MacKillop School creates opportunities for encountering life in all its richness.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I am so thankful to the amazing staff at SMM School who are putting in extra, working together showing resilience, flexibility, creativity and great hope at this time.

Following are some tips that may be useful in speaking with your children about COVID-19, depending on their age and level of understanding about coronavirus. You are probably well under way with many of these conversations:

- *Assess what they know already. Find out what they understand so you know where to start.*
- *Don't dismiss or minimise your child's fear — validate their concerns. It is reasonable to be concerned because most have probably never experienced anything like this before.*
- *Make your explanation age appropriate, provide facts, and keep it positive and calm. Tell them scientists and doctors are working on treatments. Reassure them that right now the risk of getting the coronavirus is low and if contracted most people only get cold-like symptoms and then they are immune.*
- *Give them some control over what is happening. Teach the importance of handwashing and how to do it properly, remind them of their responsibility to protect others from coughs and sneezing.*
- *Make it an opportunity to learn. Talk about how our bodies fight viruses. Understanding the science can alleviate fears. Get them to do their own fact-checking on what they have heard at school.*
- *Remind children that no-one should be ostracised or bullied because they have been associated with the virus; or use it as a way of teasing/name calling.*
- *Do not make it a one-time conversation. Keep checking in to see if they need reassurance or if they have any new questions.*

The Australian Curriculum has General Capabilities which are taught extremely well here at SMMS. The General Capabilities are those skills and dispositions that we require especially at a challenging time like this.

We want our students to be able to:

- Be strengthened and inspired by their faith and spirituality
- Show qualities of leadership
- Show empathy and respond with compassion
- Be creative and critical thinkers
- Be able to use ICT competently and responsibly to communicate and collaborate

Let us also make sure that in this uncertain time, we remain people of hope.

*“Be strong and take heart,
all you who hope in the Lord.”*

Psalm 31:24

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

We are still finalising the best alternative to face-to-face interviews between Parents/Caregivers and teachers. Teachers are still very keen to make contact with parents to discuss student learning and goals for the future as they are very aware of keeping continuity for the student's learning. We will be contacting parents about availability for phone interviews, staying with the usual 15 minute time slots. We will be in touch with you soon to begin arrangements for this.

SELF ISOLATION FOR FAMILIES

We support families who are choosing to self-isolate, however ask for consistency with this. We are seeing some situations where students are away for a few days, returning to school for a few days, then away again and so on. This defeats the purpose of self-isolation. Until we begin to receive notification that the virus is abating I ask that once in self-isolation, please remain in self-isolation.

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

21st March is known as World Down Syndrome Day (also known as WDSD), it is a global awareness initiative that has been backed by the United Nations since 2012.

It has been spearheaded by Down Syndrome International, which has linked up with national charities across the world to develop activities and events to raise awareness and support for those living with Down syndrome.

It also highlights the facts of what it's like to have Down syndrome, and how those with Down syndrome have, and continue to play, a vital role in our communities.

The date itself has been selected for very clever reasons; it is held on the 21st day of the 3rd month, which is a hat-tip to the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which leads to Down syndrome.

People are encouraged to wear brightly coloured and odd socks on the day – celebrating difference.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

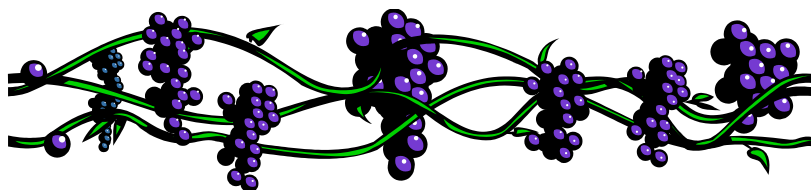
The Year 1 class observed WDSD on Monday (as the 21st fell on the weekend this year) by wearing odd socks! Well done on your support Year 1s!



Blessings for the week ahead.

Michelle Miller – Principal

(michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au)



The Vine

Prayers of hope from some of our Year 5/6 students are scattered through “The Vine”.

Dear God

Thank you for all the things we have, the things we love and the things we do. Do what you do to help those people who have the virus and make sure you keep them safe. I hope you do your best to help the virus get better and help get all the activities back on.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Blake Wy



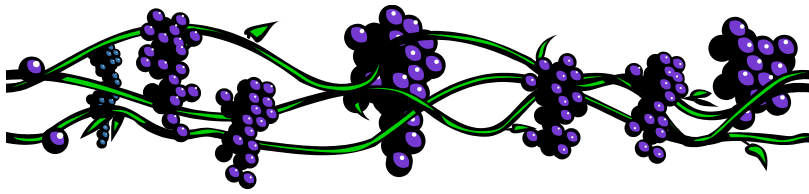
**Continuing our Lent journey to Holy Week and Easter in today's world!
Go Further Together**

Even though we are living in times that are challenging for us personally and for our whole world community, faith and hope can be steadfast, nourishing parts of our life, regardless of circumstances. But how can we even think of anything other than these changes in our life, changes over which we seem to have little control?

In these last days of Lent, may we be open to the ever-presence of God, through other people, in the immediacy of our lives now.

We know that the presence and grace of God is always with us, in good times and in trying times. If we look very hard, we can find God's peace and God's





The Vine

hope in our present world. We just have to know what we are looking for... what peace might look like and feel like and think like and what hope might look like, feel like and think like. Being aware of the presence of God in our own personal life, and in every person in the community, can help us to see things differently, with hope for the present, with hope for a renewed future, with genuine care and connection for others. Let us replace fear with hope – hope that together we will survive this jag to our normal, predictable life.

Morning play this week on the oval before school has been a most joyous time, with everyone enjoying each other's company with a very positive mindset, while being mindful of the new ways of thinking about everyone's safety that are now well and truly in place. Our older students, in particular, are detecting a real social change within our school community!



Dear God,

Thank you for our amazing world and resources we have access to. Please help those in need, and look after those who are sick, please help heal the sick and look after the people who are sick and poor during this time. Please help everyone to stay strong while COVID-19 is around.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Scarlett



Holy Week will be marked, and Easter celebrated, regardless of world events. Time is not standing still! We need to still live! Let us continue to live Lent authentically, to be conscious of what we think, say and do, to treat others as God wants us to do. To observe and share all parts of the wonderful Easter story is a way to bring calm, and a lessening of fear as we allow ourselves to experience the joy of sharing community in these challenging days.

Dear God,

Thank you for the peace in our world. Please look after those who are sick and please help make a cure for the virus. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Alfie



FAMILY PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

The Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development



End poverty

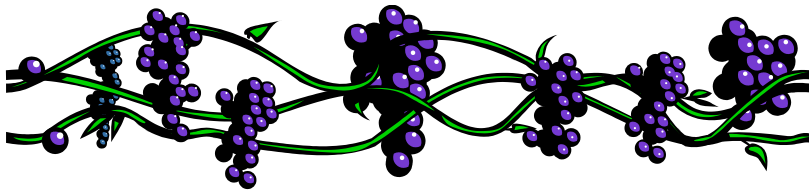
Promote justice

Uphold dignity

GO FURTHER TOGETHER



Caritas Australia is most grateful for all donations. Don't forget to fill in tax receipts on the boxes if you wish to claim a tax deduction. The acknowledged receipts will be returned as soon as they have been stamped. Thank you, in anticipation, for your generosity.



The Vine

God our Father

Thank you for all that you have given us the land, the trees and the birds. Help us to be thankful for all that you have done for us and to help all the people who have been affected with the virus.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Natalia Charlotte

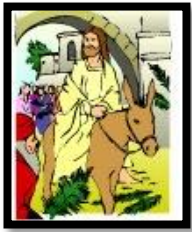
Holy Week - The Journey of Jesus to the Cross and to the Joy of Easter Sunday.

Holy Week is the week prior to the celebration of Easter. It commemorates the events of the last week of the life of Jesus. Holy Week and Easter are the most important feasts in the Church Liturgical Year.

It is our school's tradition that the events of Holy Week are usually presented by or with our students with great respect and understanding. However change is now thrust upon us by the needs of the times to limit community gatherings.

This year we will not gather for a Prayer Gathering and Meditation in Movement as we did last year on the last Thursday of Term 1 - **The Journey of Jesus to the Cross**.

Palm Sunday: On Palm Sunday Jesus was excitedly welcomed by crowds of people to Jerusalem with shouts of "Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest." He was welcomed as a "king". We know Jesus as king of our hearts.



The Last Supper: The Thursday of Holy Week recalls the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples on the night before he died - the Passover Festival. Jesus used the occasion to offer himself as a gift to his disciples, **giving the gift of his own body and blood in that Last Supper, as a sign of his longing to be one with us in love.**



This was the first celebration of the Eucharist. We continue to celebrate the Lord's Supper in memory of Jesus at **every mass**. Jesus said, "Do this in memory of me," and so we do!



The Garden of Gethsemane: Late in the night, after Jesus and his disciples had finished supper, they all walked outside, and down the street, to the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus asked his friends to stay awake and pray with him. He knew he had the sadness of a final walk to Calvary and death on the cross the next day. The disciples forgot to stay awake and pray with him. Jesus was arrested by Roman soldiers in the Garden of Gethsemane and taken immediately to Pilate the Roman governor, for accusation, trial and punishment. The rulers of Jerusalem were afraid of Jesus because

they thought he was a political king wanting to take over, and who had gathered people to his side by doing good things for them.



The Stations of the Cross: The anniversary of the passion (suffering) and death of Christ is commemorated in our Christian churches on **Friday of Holy Week – Good Friday**.

A quiet Good Friday invites us to consider more deeply the presence of Jesus in our lives.

Good Friday is remembered through the re-telling and accompanying movement of the "Stations of the Cross" – the walking journey to Jesus to death on the cross at Calvary.

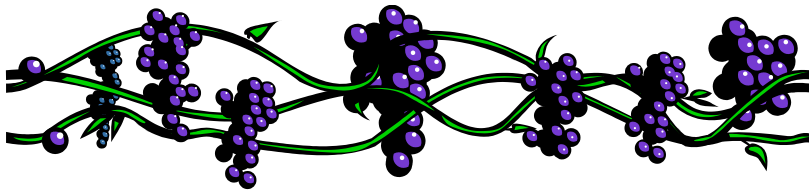
But that's not the end for our remembrance of Holy Week and Easter!

Remembering Easter Sunday – the sacred mystery of our Christian faith and beliefs:

The joyful hope of New Life comes to us on Easter Sunday when we remember Jesus rising, through the action of God, to new and eternal life from his death on the cross. This is how we know that Jesus, the Son of God, is with us in our lives right now.

In normal times, the Church Holy Week and Easter liturgies are celebrated from the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday night until the celebratory Easter Resurrection Masses of Easter Sunday.





The Vine

However, with masses suspended indefinitely and churches closed, we need to think and act differently. Our decision-making will change. Now we will consciously make the decision to find a different way this coming Easter to remember and celebrate the real meaning of Easter – the Resurrection of Jesus Christ to new life. Jesus is actually present with us always “until the end of time”, as he promised in the Gospels.

A Prayer for the World

*God of love and hope,
You made the world and care for all creation,
but the world feels strange right now.
The news is full of stories about coronavirus.
Some people are worried they might get ill.
Others are anxious for their family and friends.
Be with them and help them find peace.
We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists,
all who are working to discover the right medicines
to help those who are ill.
Thank you that even in these anxious times, you
are with us.
Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.*

Amen

Shared by Mrs Ryan



Bernie Thomson APRIM and Pastoral Care Support

The P and F Provider – “The place for all your P and F news!”

FRIDAY LUNCH ORDERS – Reminder, no Friday lunch orders for the remainder of the term. Thank you to Tarnya and all parent helpers for this term.

MOTHER’S DAY RAFFLE – This year we will be running a Mother’s Day raffle as a fundraiser for our school. All donations towards the raffle will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be placed in the tub at the front of the MPLA. Don’t forget to sell your raffle tickets and return to school.

SUBWAY LUNCH ORDERS



The Subway lunch fundraiser on **Thursday, 9th April, will be postponed until next term.**

Thank you everyone for your orders, we can hold on to them until we can set a new date. If you would like your order/s back, please see Karen.

Lent Immersion Day

On Wednesday, 11th March, the 3/4 and the 2/3 classes joined together for a special Lent Immersion Day. We started the day with a Prayer Gathering in the hall; thank you to the parents who came. Then we baked and iced chocolate muffins in the school kitchen with the help of some kind parents: **Lisa Cabrera, Taya Dennis & Louise Joy**. We sold the muffins for \$2 each the next day, all the money went to a good cause; Project Compassion. We raised **\$295!** That is amazing, thank you everyone who helped us raise that much money.

We also had a visit to Star of the Sea and Father Matthew gave us a guided tour; we learnt about the Stations of the Cross, where the blessed bread and wine is stored in the tabernacle and what is special about the altar. Here are some of our questions that Father answered for us while we were there:

1. Why do we have ash on our head and what does the ash mean?
2. Why is Lent for 40 days?
3. Why do we have to give something up?
4. Why are there poor people in the world when God could give everyone money?
5. Why is Lent the colour purple?
6. Why is Easter so important to God?
7. What are you giving up for Lent and what is your favourite part of Lent?

We also wrote our Lent promises on a scroll and decorated it and made cross collages. At the end of the day we finished the day of with a game.

It was a really fun day, thank you to all of the helpers who made it possible and to the families who joined us for prayer.

By Emmett, Year 4 & Adelaide, Year 3



Year 3/4 Science

The students in Year 3/4 created a replica of a bee pollinator during Science. Students were then asked to describe the process of pollination. Everyone was very proud of the results!



SAPSASA Cricket



It was a great week of cricket for Hunter, Ryan and Harry who represented NYP in SAPSASA Cricket.

We won two of our first three games to finish second in our pool before losing our final game to finish 4th overall in Division 4.

The week was amazing and we all enjoyed ourselves. It was great to play cricket for the week and to play with some different boys from around our area.

Here is a summary of our games:

- Game 1 – NYP (9/107) vs. Onkaparinga North (6/190)
 - Hunter – 14 runs & 0/3
 - Harry – 25 runs & 1/5
 - Ryan – 2 runs & 0/12
- Game 2 – NYP (8/218) vs. Murraylands (9/126)
 - Harry – 29 runs & 2/5
 - Hunter – 43 ret & 0/11 and a brilliant run-out with a direct hit from a throw in from the boundary!
 - Ryan – DNB & 0/24
- Game 3 – NYP (7/130) vs. Northern (10/68)
 - Hunter – 4 runs & 2/6
 - Harry – 33ret & 1/0
 - Ryan – 9n.o. & 0/2
- Game 4 – NYP (10/53) vs. Playford (10/124)
 - Ryan – 3 runs & 2/12
 - Harry – 9 runs & 0/0
 - Hunter – 13 runs & 2/7

By Harry – Year 7

Buddy Class With 6/7s and Reception



This year the 6/7 and the Receptions have buddied up. The first buddy session the 6/7s went to the Reception's class to meet our new Receptions and we went to the JP playground and had a play.

The next session we paired up with our buddies and asked questions about our buddies and played with them. The next session the year 6/7s helped their buddies to get on SeeSaw and they sent a picture to their parents.

- Mitchell and Jack

For our third session, we drew a picture of us and our buddies and then the big buddies would say who they are and say what they are doing by recording their voice on SeeSaw. The Reception buddies were really happy and still are when they see us on the oval, they will give us high fives and smile and we still play around but because of the COVID-19 we can't pair up as a whole class. Hopefully we will be able to do buddies again soon.

- Tyrell

Educational Apps

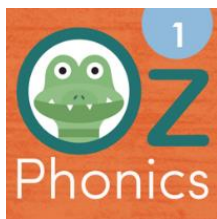
Educational apps are recommended regularly and these are some that are available.

Seeing AI is an app that provides audio of text. There are a few options on this app and in the Short Text option, it speaks the text as soon as it appears in front of the camera. In the Documents option, it takes a picture of a printed page, recognizes the text, along with its original formatting and converts that into audio. Unfortunately, it finds text with lots of pictures difficult.

It is free and available on both Android and Apple.



Oz Phonics has five apps ranging from the introduction to 15 English language phonics sounds to more complex sounds. It has an Australian accent and also has complimenting worksheets available online. This app is available for Apple products.



School Writing AU/NZ is an Australian app that allows a user to practice correct letter formation. You can personalise the app for SA Beginners or SA Cursive. When using writing apps, at times, you use a Stylus to practice correct letter formation with correct pencil grip. The app is available for Apple products.



Francesca Tully
Literacy Support Teacher



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Hudson – Year 3/4	26 th March
Zain – Year 1	26 th March
Leah Stock – OSHC	27 th March
Mercedes – Year 1	29 th March
Madison – Rec/1	31 st March
Rylee – Year 1	3 rd April
Scarlett – Rec/1	5 th April
Dean – Year 5/6	7 th April
Jaxx – Year 2/3	7 th April



NEWSLETTER INSERTS

1. Nil

If you have not received any of the above hand-outs, please write a note in your child's diary for a copy to be sent home.

Vacation Care – April School Holidays

Monday 13 th	Tuesday 14 th	Wednesday 15 th	Thursday 16 th	Friday 17 th
<p>Easter Monday Public Holiday</p>	<p>MUSIC IS FUN AT OSHC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -make your own instruments -sing along with karaoke -create an OSHC music performance 	<p>Teddy Bear Picnic on the Oval</p>  <p>Bring your Teddy Bear</p>	<p>OSHC CINEMA (MOVIE DECIDED ON THE DAY) Come along to our OSHC cinema. Run by the kids</p> <p>AVAILABLE AT THE CINEMA- POPCORN MILKSHAKES FACE PAINTING</p>	<p>BOARD GAMES DAY</p> <p>Bring along a board game from home to share with your friends</p>  <p>OSHC will also have some new board games.</p>
Monday 20 th	Tuesday 21 st	Wednesday 22 nd	Thursday 23 rd	Friday 24 th
<p>COOKING DAY</p> <p>Making and baking goodies we would find in a bakery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sausage rolls -Cakes -Milkshakes 	<p>Electronics Day</p>  <p>Wii iPad Computers Movies with permission from parents. You are permitted to bring <u>one</u> electronic from home, this can be a DS, iPad, Laptop or Wii Game.</p>	<p>Treasure Hunt at School</p>  <p>Follow the clues around the school to find the treasure.</p> <p>Have some fun come dressed up as a pirate.</p>	<p>Arts and Crafts Day</p>  <p>Painting Box making Beading and much more.</p>	<p>Anzac Day</p> <p>Make poppies Bake Anzac Biscuits Play Two Up</p>  <p>Lest we Forget</p>

VACATION CARE BOOKING SHEET –RETURN by Monday 30th March

DATE

NAME/S OF CHILDREN ATTENDING

Monday, 13th April Public Holiday

Tuesday, 14th April.....

Wednesday, 15th April.....

Thursday, 16th April.....Booked Out.....

Friday 17th April..... Booked Out.....

Monday 20th April.....

Tuesday, 21st April.....Booked Out.....

Wednesday, 22nd April.....Booked Out.....

Thursday, 23rd April.....

Friday, 24th April

Family Name: _____

Signed: _____