



# St Mary MacKillop School

## NEWSLETTER

10 Bagot Street (PO Box 16), WALLAROO SA 5556

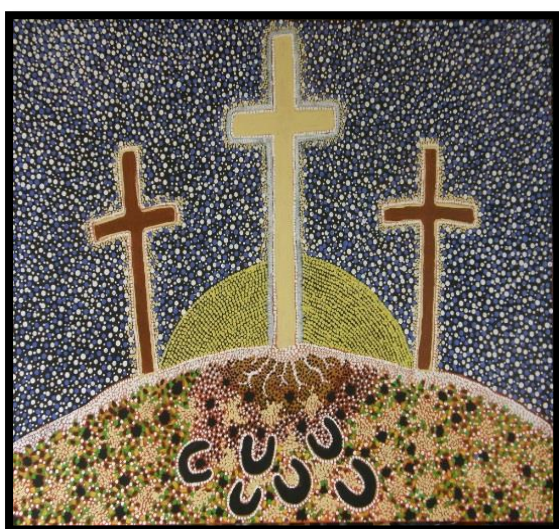
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**Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Term 2, Week 5)**

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



#### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we are gathering  
on the traditional country of  
the Narrunga people.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage,  
beliefs and relationship with the land.

We acknowledge that they are of  
continuing importance to  
the Narrunga people living today.

Yesterday we commemorated Sorry Day and today we commence national Reconciliation Week. Reconciliation is an essential part of our Catholic Identity and our Mission as a Catholic School. Our Mission is to "create opportunities for students to encounter life in all its richness" and this entails learning about our history, valuing difference, nurturing cultural awareness and working towards reconciliation whenever and wherever this is needed.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### MAY

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> – Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> June National Reconciliation Week  
Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Pentecost

#### JUNE

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> P & F meeting 7.00pm  
Sun 7<sup>th</sup> The Holy Trinity  
Mon 8<sup>th</sup> PUBLIC HOLIDAY  
Tue 9<sup>th</sup> PUPIL FREE DAY  
6.30pm School Board Policy committee meeting  
Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Transition visit for Term 3 Reception students 8.50-11.30am  
Sun 14<sup>th</sup> The Body & Blood of Christ  
Tue 16<sup>th</sup> 7.00/7.30pm Finance/School Board  
Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Transition visit for Term 3 Reception students 8.50am-1.40pm  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Thu 25<sup>th</sup> Transition visit for Term 3 Reception students 8.50am-3.00pm

#### JULY

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Last day of Term 2  
Casual Day  
Mon 20<sup>th</sup> PUPIL FREE DAY  
Tue 21<sup>st</sup> Term 3 commences for students

## RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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### **SORRY DAY**

**National Sorry Day**, or the **National Day of Healing**, is an annual event that has been held in [Australia](#) on [26 May](#) since 1998, to acknowledge that indigenous children were separated from their families, resulting in what has become known as the "[Stolen Generations](#)".

### **NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK**

**National Reconciliation Week** was initiated in 1996 to celebrate [Indigenous](#) history and culture in Australia and foster [reconciliation](#).

It is held between 27<sup>th</sup> May and the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June of each year, with the dates holding special historical significance. The 27<sup>th</sup> May marks the anniversary of the [1967 referendum](#) (on indigenous policies) in Australia. The 3<sup>rd</sup> June marks the anniversary of the [High Court of Australia](#) judgement on the [Mabo v Queensland](#) trial of 1992.

Both dates are extremely significant for the rights of the indigenous people in Australia.

Officially it is still Autumn for a few more days but it certainly feels as if Winter is here! I hope that you are able to enjoy the changing seasons and all that it brings: bonfires burning, snuggling up, beanies and scarves, warm soup, reading, puzzles and games inside, colourful falling leaves, walks in the refreshing cool air, cool clear rain. We might be missing the winter sports and some of the activities but hopefully you can still find other positives!

We need a winter in our lives,  
a time of rest, a time to stand still.  
A time to reacquaint ourselves  
with the faith in which we live.  
It is only then that we can draw strength  
from the one in whom we are rooted.  
Take time to grow and rise through the darkness,  
into the warm glow of your springtime.  
To blossom and flourish  
and bring colour and vitality into this world.  
Thank you God,  
for the seasons of our lives.  
(Author unknown)

### **MID-YEAR RECEPTION INTAKE**

Recently I have been enjoying meeting with children and their families who will commence in Reception with us in Term 3. This is one of the most privileged times in my role as Principal, meeting with families who are entrusting us to work with them to care for and educate their child.

This week Hayley Combe and I will visit the children at Kindy and then we look forward to welcoming them for transition visits. Transition visits for four children will take place in Week 7, 8, 9 on Thursdays.

We are welcoming into Reception: Izack Karpany, Triss Gummow, Maggie Tully and Colt Groome.

### **STUDENT LEAVING - BEST WISHES MADISON**

Madison Beverley will be leaving our school community, this Friday will be her last day with us. We wish Madison and her family all the very best for their move to their new home, school and work.

### **REST IN PEACE**

Monsignor Arthur Hackett, a former Parish priest here, passed away last weekend. Many of you may know Fr Arthur from his time here. Please keep Fr Arthur and his family and fellow priests in your prayers.

### **COVID-19**

It has been pleasing to see so many of our school routines returning gradually. For the continued safety and wellbeing of everyone in our community, we are required to still have the following restrictions in place:

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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- Parents/Carers continue to say goodbye to children in the morning either from your car or from the MPLA gates and also pick up children at these points as well.
- Parents/Carers are welcome to come into the Front Office ensuring that the physical distancing is in place and given the size of the area, 4 people at a time.
- Class teachers are very happy to be in contact with you via phone, see-saw or email.

### SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

To fill a recent vacancy on our School Board, Mandie Malone and Katie Crawford (who were nominated earlier this year) have both accepted the invitation to join our School Board.

On behalf of you all, I thank and welcome Katie and Mandie to our School Board.

### COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

Communicating with you and working in partnership is a priority for us. As well as the ongoing contact between teachers and families, teachers are currently engaged in writing Semester 2 reports and Personal Plans for Learning.

Personal Plans for Learning (formerly IEPs) will be sent home for parents/carers to read, sign and return – Wednesday, Week 8 of this term. Usually PPLs would be discussed in a meeting with the Principal, teacher and family. With the current restrictions these discussions will take place by phone then as a follow up, the report will be sent home.

Written reports will come home on Wednesday of Week 1, Term 3.

These forms of communication with you about student progress and achievement are a vital part of our school value of “commitment to learning”.

### WORK HEALTH & SAFETY

We hold drills each term so that in the event of an emergency we will all be well prepared. So far this year we have had two Evacuation drills and next week we will be having a Lock-In drill. These are explained to the students in terms that are age-appropriate, however if at any stage you become aware that your child is experiencing any concern about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child’s class teacher, Bernie Thomson or myself.

Blessings for the week ahead.

*Michelle Miller*

Principal

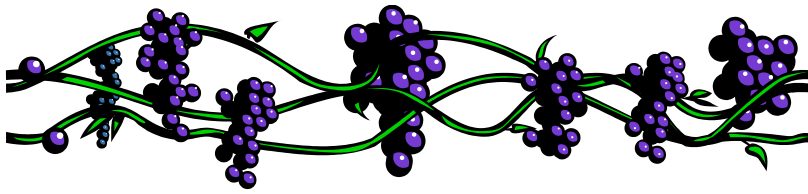
[michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au](mailto:michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au)

## Congratulations Amie

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Last Thursday we had a special morning tea to celebrate Amie Price completing her final teaching practicum for her teachers degree. Amie was in the 3/4 class for the first four weeks of this term and they loved having her. Amie returned to her Education Support Officer role at school this week.



## The Vine

### Happy Birthday to the Church!



The **Feast of the Ascension**, last Sunday, and the **Feast of Pentecost**, this coming Sunday, bring the Easter Season to a close. Both are intricately connected. One cannot be seen and understood without the other.

Before the Resurrection, Jesus was fully human as well as divine. He could only be in one place at the one time, just like us! However, after the Resurrection Jesus was still with his disciples, giving them courage and peace to keep going - but in a different way – showing them new life. Just before Jesus left his very sad and fearful disciples, in an earthly sense, and went back to be in New Life with God the Father, Scripture tells us that he promised to be with them and thus us all, giving strength and courage to live and teach his message of God's love, for all time. Jesus fulfilled that promise of such help through an event known and celebrated in the Church as **Pentecost**.

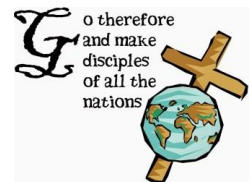


From Jesus, the life of Holy Spirit, in the natural powerful physical form of fire and wind, came upon all to guide and give courage. God never leaves us. God is always with us! We are loved. We are forgiven. The group of believers which Jesus gathered around him becomes the community of the Church at the time of the Ascension and Pentecost.



Pope Francis shares the event of, and some simple understandings about, Pentecost in his book ***Walking with Jesus***:

*After the death of Jesus, no one expected any more from the disciples. They were now just a small insignificant group who had lost their leader and Master. An unexpected event occurred while they all gathered in cowardice and fear of the Jews (who had cooperated with the Romans to execute Jesus). Suddenly they were all filled with the courage of the Holy Spirit which came to them in the symbolic form of a big wind and flames. People were astonished because each of them could hear the disciples talking in their own language as they told of the great works of God. The Church born at Pentecost is an astounding community because a new message is proclaimed - the resurrection of Jesus Christ - and in a new language – the language of love. The disciples were now able to speak with courage and confidence as the life of the Holy Spirit of Jesus flowed through them.*



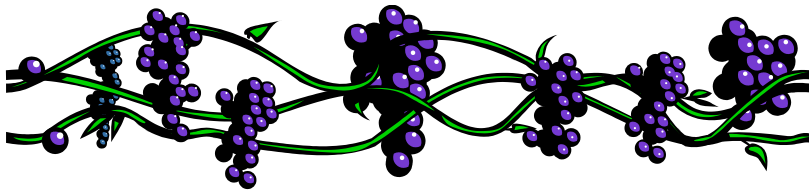
### Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week



The foundations for forgiveness and reconciliation are truth and justice. At the centre of reconciliation is the courage and movement of the Holy Spirit within us as we respond to the call of bringing Jesus' message of deep love and peace, fairness and justice to the world. We can join our intentions for reconciliation with the First Australians with the elements of the Christian Sacrament of Reconciliation, the sacrament of forgiveness, openness, acting on conscience and free will for the good of others, healing and restoring relationships with respect, love and dignity. We are the living, life-giving Church in our world.

We join with our Australian community to open ourselves to the broadening of our perspective on the real truth of our Australian history for the last 40,000 years to the present day. We do make an effort to know more about the Aboriginal culture which today still has an important impact and to acknowledge the deep hurt which came to the First Australians over several centuries. We also make an effort to understand events and culture change since the arrival of Europeans to this beautiful land.





## The Vine

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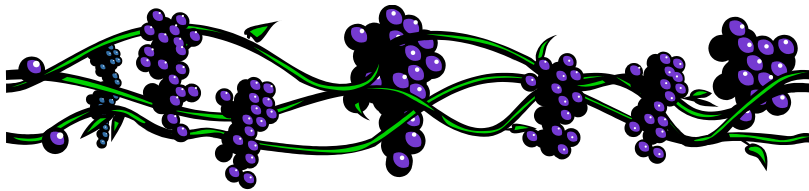
At this time of Pentecost, and being open to the movement of the Holy Spirit deep within us, can give us the courage and wisdom to acknowledge truth and reality; to be able to bring about change within ourselves and change for the good of others in our attitude and actions towards reconciliation.

This week we give recognition to those of our school community who proudly identify their Indigenous heritage.



We are also creating a whole school visual representation and reminder of this year's theme for National Reconciliation Week, "In This Together". It should be ready by the end of National reconciliation Week. Each student is decorating a pair of feet representing walking alongside our Indigenous brothers and sisters in this journey of reconciliation. We are also painting a canvas as the physical centre point of our feet on the journey. The canvas artistic message is inspired by the circular and pathway logo for National Reconciliation Week, just above in this newsletter.





## The Vine

### Prayer of Reconciliation



God of love,  
You are the Creator of all things.  
We are sorry for the pain and the suffering of our First peoples  
which have happened over hundreds of years.  
We ask your forgiveness.  
We thank you for the survival of our Indigenous cultures.  
Give us the courage to accept the realities of our history  
so that we may build a better community for all Australians in the future.  
Teach us to respect all cultures.  
Teach us to respect our land and waters.  
Help us to share the resources of our land Australia, in a fair and just way.  
May we be fired within by the courage of the Holy Spirit  
so that we may move with knowledge and wisdom  
into a future of peace and justice for all Australian people.  
Through Jesus Christ Our Lord.



Amen

*Adapted from a prayer prepared by Wontulp Bi-Buya Indigenous Theology Working Group 13 March 1997 Brisbane QLD*

**Bernie Thomson**

**APRIM and Pastoral Care Support**

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

### FRIDAY LUNCHES

Thank you to the ladies who have offered their assistance this term. Below are the dates we require volunteers. If you can spare 1.5 hours on a Friday between 11.30am-1.00pm (please note change of time), we would love your help. You will be a support person in getting the lunches ready.

A police check clearance is required to assist with lunches. Please see Karen or Julia if you need to complete a Working With Children Check.

#### PARENT AND FRIENDS - FRIDAY LUNCH VOLUNTEERS – TERM 2

Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & Lauren Atkinson
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & Lauren Atkinson
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & Lauren Atkinson
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & Kristy Smith
Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & .....
Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & .....
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Time 11.30am – 1pm	Krystle Lutze & Kristy Smith

**Please return the reply slip by Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Thank you for your support.**

# Student School Banking

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## *Here is a special message from Commonwealth Bank:*

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people remains our highest priority. Due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding coronavirus, the **School Banking program will remain on hold.**

We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed with any updates including how we will be managing Dollarmite tokens for students.

In the meantime, here are some handy online resources for parents who wish to maintain momentum with their child's financial education:

- **Start Smart:** *These resources have been created to improve children's money management skills, and is aligned to the Australian Curriculum and the National Consumer Financial Literacy Framework.*
- **The Beanstalk** *Offers videos and fun activities for children to learn about money.*

## Winter Jacket

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Our winter jacket might be handy to team with our scarf for the chilly mornings.

Made from waterproof nylon with a full polar fleece lining.

Jackets are available for \$35.00 from the Uniform Shop.

## ICAS Academic Competitions

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Each year we offer students an opportunity to sit the ICAS Academic competitions. The Australian Schools Competitions form the largest independent assessment programme for schools available in Australia, New Zealand, Asia and the Pacific region. The test can be used to monitor individual progress in a range of subject-related skills and to recognize and reward achievement at all levels. **Testing is available to students currently in Years 2-7 (Writing and Digital Technologies is not available for Year 2) and is not compulsory.** Students who participate will each receive a certificate and a detailed results letter indicating the percentage of students across the Australasian region who answered each question correctly. These competitions are for students with a particular passion or strength in any of the following areas.

### Competition

Writing (Years 3-7)

Science (Years 2-7)

Digital Technologies (Years 3-7)

English (Years 2-7)

Mathematics (Years 2-7)

Spelling Bee (Years 2-7)

### Sitting Dates

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August

24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> August

24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> August

31<sup>st</sup> August – 4<sup>th</sup> September

31<sup>st</sup> August – 4<sup>th</sup> September

The entry fees for 2020 (to be subsidized 50% by St Mary MacKillop) for all subjects is \$8.00 each.

If you would like your child/ren to participate in any of these competitions, please write their name and the competition they wish to enter along with their year level on the front of an envelope. **All entries are to be returned to the front office by Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May.** Please note that there are no refunds available if your child/ren are unable to sit the test on the designated dates.

# OSHC News

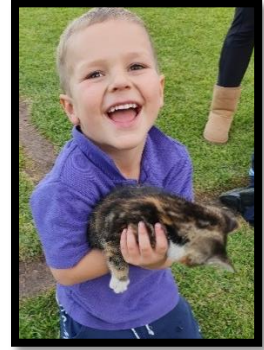
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We had some very excited children last week when Jack and Liam brought their new kittens in to show OSHC students. Everyone had a cuddle of one.

The students have also been enjoying different craft activities and playing group games.

When collecting your child/ren from OSHC, please minimise your time at the service to a maximum of 5 minutes.

If your child is booked into OSHC and not attending or is absent from school, please inform OSHC staff before 1pm or you may be charged. You can either call or send a text to 0437 659 137.



## OSHC Pupil Free Day

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**Tuesday , 9<sup>th</sup> June**, is a Pupil Free Day. Outside School Hours Care will be available on these days from 8.00am to 6.00pm. Light snacks are provided, children will need to bring packed recess and lunch. No fee will be charged with the current government assistance. Please return the reply slip below by **Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May**, if you would like your child/ren to attend.

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### OSHC BOOKING FORM – PUPIL FREE DAY – TUESDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Children requiring OSHC

_____	Year _____
_____	Year _____
_____	Year _____

## Vacation Care News

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Enclosed with today's Newsletter is the Vacation Care booking sheet for the July school holidays. Please book your child/ren in for the days that you require by Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

During the April school holidays, OSHC students brought their own packed lunch boxes for recess and lunch. We found the students enjoyed this option and it made great conversations at lunch time to discuss what they were having. Staff also found that the quality of care for the students was increased as they weren't spending as much time in the kitchen preparing, cooking and cleaning three times a day. After surveys to families and discussions we held, we decided that packed lunch boxes will continue throughout all school holidays. This is to keep the high quality of care for students attending and to keep fees from being increased.

**Lisa Cooper**  
**OSHC Director**





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Blake – Year 5/6	27 <sup>th</sup> May
Malakai – Year 5/6	1 <sup>st</sup> June
Lilly – Year 6/7	8 <sup>th</sup> June



## NEWSLETTER INSERTS

### 1. Vacation Care Programme

*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.*

## Community News

Free Parenting SA webinar

### Handling sibling conflict proactively so they fight less and stay connected



### Free parenting webinar

Are you tired of sorting out sibling conflict? Want better relationships and less stress in your family?

Register to hear Madhavi Nawana Parker talk about:

- why it is normal for siblings to fight
- how to reduce conflict by being proactive
- how conflict can be a chance to build children's skills and strengthen relationships
- keeping yourself calm and positive.

Register at  
<https://handling-sibling-rivalry.eventbrite.com>

*You will also receive a link to view the webinar recording after the event. This session is designed for parent/carers of children 4-12 years.*



Madhavi Nawana Parker,  
author, counsellor and Director of  
Positive Minds Australia  
[www.positivemindsaustralia.com](http://www.positivemindsaustralia.com)

### Tuesday 16 June

When: 7.00pm – SA, NT  
7.30pm – Qld, NSW, Vic, ACT, Tas  
6.15pm – Eucla  
5.30pm – WA



