



St Mary MacKillop School

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Mini-Newsletter

Wednesday, 2nd December 2020 (Term 4, Week 8)

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

ADVENT

On Sunday 30th November, we celebrated the 1st Sunday of Advent
in the Church Liturgical Year.

For our school celebrations, we are a little bit ahead so that we are able to fit four Advent prayer services into our school term. Therefore on Monday of this week we reflected on the 3rd Sunday of Advent and lit three candles on the Advent wreath: two purple and one pink. The pink candle, the third candle, is a sign of joy.



Joy, like hope, is often mistaken for something it is not. It doesn't equate with happiness or excitement, both of which can come in short bursts and flame out as quickly as they emerge. Joy is deep-rooted and grounded in an interior sense of well-being. It often emerges at unexpected times and in unusual ways.

St Paul's letter to the Philippians encapsulates the joy that marks our faith in God's eternal love and mercy. Paul writes: *"Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!"* (Philippians 4:4).

May you all know the deep joy that our faith brings to Advent and Christmas time.

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

Clair Newbold (Reception) and her two siblings will be baptised this Saturday, 5th December, in the Kadina Church. Please keep Clair and her family in your thoughts and prayers at this special time as they are welcomed into God's family in a special way through the sacrament of Baptism.

YEAR 7 GRADUATION DINNER – SUNDAY, 6TH DECEMBER, COOPERS ALEHOUSE IN WALLAROO

Year 7 families please note that we have had to change the venue for the Year 7 Graduation Dinner (due to covid restrictions for venues).

A letter, meal order form and menu is coming home today. Please have your meal orders back to us at school by this Friday 4th December.

We look forward to this special celebration meal this Sunday.

YEAR 7 GRADUTION LITURGY – TUESDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, IN SCHOOL MPLA

The Year 7 Graduation Liturgy is a bit like the travelling 3 Wise Men who are travelling around our MPLA at the moment. It was going to be at the Sailing Club, then outside here on the Green, then over the road on the oval.....finally, it has arrivedand will be held in the MPLA!

After much discernment, with the Year 7 students and their families always at the centre, we have decided to use the inside space and we will make it very special.

END OF YEAR MASS – THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER, IN SCHOOL MPLA

We are thrilled to have special guests including Bishop Karol (Port Pirie Diocese) and Nichii Mardon (Director) attending our End Of Year Mass next week.

The Mass will be attended by our special guests, staff, all students, Year 7 family members and family members of children in other year levels who are leaving. Unfortunately it is not possible for us to have this Mass open for our whole school community to attend. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Following the Mass we will host morning tea in the Hall with our special guests, Year 7 students and their families and staff.

YEAR 7 MORNING TEA IN THE STAFF ROOM

A tradition is for the Year 7 students to be invited to the Staff Room for morning tea on their last day. Due to the above change for morning tea on the last day, Year 7 students will be invited to morning tea in the Staff Room on Wednesday 9th at recess time.

There are many special events coming up for our school and especially for our Year 7 students.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Lisa Hanson, Hayley Combe and the Reception and Year 1 students for the Assembly last Friday, we are well-versed on our Fairytale structure now! The students did a wonderful job and a highlight of my day was seeing them in their costumes all day, despite how hot it was! The wolf at the making table in her furry coat and furry mask made me smile each time I saw her.

STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with pleasure that I share with you the announcement that Mrs Charlotte McCann has been appointed as the teacher of our new R/1 class for 2021. Charlotte is currently teaching at Caritas College in Port Augusta.

Charlotte will come to visit next Tuesday and will be here for the 2021 Class Visit time.

We look forward to welcoming Charlotte to our community.

NOTIFICATION OF 2021 CLASS PLACEMENTS

Originally class placement notifications were to be sent home this Friday, however these will now be sent home on Tuesday, 8th December.

ANNUAL SURVEYS

Annual surveys gather information that informs planning for improvement in all areas of our school. Parents, students and staff all are invited to participate in the surveys. Participants are asked to put their name on the surveys, this can be helpful if follow up or clarification is required, however the responses are always kept confidential.

If you wish to share your feedback, please fill in a survey (hard copy or electronic) included with today's Newsletter and return it to Karen in the office or directly to me by the last day of this term.

P & F RAFFLE

Please return all books by this Friday, 4th December.

The raffle will be drawn at the Monday Morning Assembly – Monday, 7th December.

SUBWAY LUNCH – THURSDAY, 10TH DECEMBER

Please return Subway envelopes and money to school tomorrow, Thursday, 3rd December.

SCHOOL VALUE AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the students who were the recipients of the School Value Award at our assembly on Friday and Monday morning notices. The awards include Respect, Team Work, Trust, Courage and Commitment. Well done everyone!



Back: Blake, Sofia, Mitchell, Hunter, Ayden, Farren, Bethany
Middle: Kaysha, Emmett, Elahni, Harvie
Front: Tyler, Adelaide, Trae, Alexia, Asha, Billie



Miranda



Charlotte



L-R: Olive, Aria, Hannah, Scarlett, Ava, Nicholas, Mia

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Donny Duncan, Megan, Jordan and Curtis on the passing of Donny's father Stu. Our thoughts and prayers are with Donny and his family.

Blessings for the week ahead,

Michelle Miller

Principal

michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish of the Copper Coast

Mass times for Christmas and New Year's Day

CHRISTMAS EVE: 6pm Children's Mass, Kadina ***

CHRISTMAS EVE; 8:30pm Port Broughton

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8:30am Moonta

CHRISTMAS DAY: 10:30am Kadina

NEW YEAR'S DAY: 10am, Kadina

** Due to the uncertainty with the COVID restrictions, we have decided that it would be easier if we forgo the traditional play for the 6pm Children's Mass on Christmas Eve.

Children are still invited to dress up as angel, a Magi (Wise Man) a Shepherd, Mary, Joseph, the Star or an animal from the Christmas story. We will save the play for next year.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARENTS SA

The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) is pleased to announce the formation of Catholic School Parents SA as the new representative body of Catholic school parents.

Catholic School Parents SA will connect with parent groups across the 101 Catholic Schools in the State.

Chair of SACCS, Professor Denis Ralph, said "Parents and carers have always played a pivotal role in the success of Catholic schools in South Australia. This new parent representative and advocacy body will further enhance parent engagement and participation in the education and care of children and young people in Catholic schools in South Australia."

In 2020, the Commission engaged an independent reviewer to consult with parents in all Catholic schools to seek their feedback as to whether they felt they had an adequate voice in the education of their children and what kind of support they would like to see in the future.

"While acknowledging that the current structures have served parents and our school communities well in the past, the review recognised that parents and carers have busy lives and are looking for new ways to engage in and support the education of their children," Professor Ralph said.

Catholic School Parents SA will be closely aligned with Catholic School Parents Australia, the national body that represents and advocates for parents and carers of children and young people in Catholic schools across Australia, and will seek to have broad representation of parents of students in our schools.

The new group will:

- Engage in a program of listening to the needs of parents across Catholic schools
- Advocate for improved funding and support for children and young people in Catholic schools and preschools
- Ensure parent voice in policy development
- Represent parents on a range of committees and working parties
- Participate in the work of Catholic School Parents Australia.

"We are excited by the opportunity to engage with parents in our schools in new ways in 2021 and beyond," Professor Ralph said.

Schools will receive further information early in 2021.

Year 3/4 Class Vinnie's Christmas Appeal Fundraiser

WHEN: Friday, 4th December

WHAT: Miniature biscuit Christmas houses

HOW MUCH: \$2 each



WHY: The Year 3/4 Class want to raise money to buy groceries for the Vinnie's Christmas Appeal.

We are making Christmas biscuit houses and hope to sell **1 to each child.**

Please bring along **\$2 on Friday** and you go home with an **individually wrapped,** made with love, **Christmas house.**

It's a great cause and we would be helping out our local families in need at Christmas time, so please support us and bring along \$2 and you get a yummy biscuit house.

Thank you

2020 CHRISTMAS HAMBERS - YORKE PENINSULA

Centacare Catholic Country SA is proud
to be offering Christmas Hampers to
those in need again this Christmas.

To register your interest*, please contact
us on 1800 759 865 and select the Port
Augusta Office before the 8th of
December 2020.

* LIMITED NUMBERS AVAILABLE



Merry Christmas