



# St Mary MacKillop School

## NEWSLETTER

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

P: (08) 8823 2549 F: (08) 8823 2561

E: [info@stmm.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stmm.catholic.edu.au) W: [www.stmm.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmm.catholic.edu.au)

**Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021 (Term 1, Week 2)**

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**“Hospitality of the heart - Come and Stay”**

**Welcoming God,**

**Come be with us this term.**

**Fill our hearts with joy.**

**Fill our minds with learning.**

**Fill our classrooms with peace.**

**Fill our lessons and play with fun.**

**Fill our friendships with kindness.**

**Fill our school with hospitality.**

**We ask this through Jesus’ name. Amen**



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### FEBRUARY

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Mini Macs Playgroup 9.00am

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Opening School Mass 9.30am

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Friday Lunches

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Commissioning Mass @ Kadina 10.00am

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> House Top order forms due by 9.00am

Tue 9<sup>th</sup> P & F Meeting 7.00pm

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Meet and Greet evening

Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Finance meeting 7.00pm

School Board meeting 7.30pm

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday

#### MARCH

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Sports Day

#### Parish Weekend Mass Times

Sacred Heart, Kadina

Saturday 6.00pm

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta

Sunday 8.30am

Sacred Heart, Kadina

Sunday 10.00am

## RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of SMMS,

## MEET OUR STAFF

### **Leadership Team:**

Michelle Miller	Principal
Bernie Thomson	APRIM (Assistant Principal Religious Identity & Mission), Chaplain, Student Wellbeing
Annette Morphet	Leader of Learning
Lisa Caffyn	Sport, PE, Moderation, Teacher in Charge
Ali Ryan	General Capabilities, Moderation
Francesca Tully	IT, Data collection/analysis, SEQTA

### **Teaching Teams:**

R/1 Team: Hayley Combe, Lisa Hanson, Charlotte McCann

2-3 Team: Jane Owen and Agatka Murphy (Year 2), Abbey Whitehead (Year 2/3)

4-7 Team: Ali Rogers (4/5), Hannah Cotter (5/6), Lisa Caffyn and Madeline Woodforde (6/7)

Specialist Teachers: Francesca Tully (Italian, Student Support), Annette Morphet (Student Support), Lisa Caffyn (PE), Agatka Murphy (Science), Madeline Woodforde (Science)

### **Education Support Officers Team:**

Karen Westlake	Administration, WHS
Julia Agnew	Finance, Administration
Felicity Schulz	Mini Macs playgroup coordinator
Sharon Steer	Library coordinator
Lisa Cooper	OSHC coordinator and Curriculum ESO
Paula Northeast	Curriculum, OSHC Admin, What's The Buzz?, Bus driver
Heather Griffiths	Curriculum, Quicksmart Maths
Tania Nitschke	Curriculum, OSHC
Karen McCulloch	Curriculum, Dance
Lisa Murphy	Curriculum
Rachael Zimmermann	Curriculum, OSHC
Jody Duif	Curriculum
Kelly Richardson	Curriculum
Jenny Davey	Curriculum
Gary Whitford	IT
Michael Dennis	Bus, mentoring, grounds and maintenance
Ron Sherriff	Grounds and maintenance

### **OSHC/Vacation Care Team:**

Lisa Cooper, Tania Nitschke, Rachael Zimmermann, Leah Stock, Cloe Bowman, Clare Owen, Luke Agnew, Maddison Benn

Richard and Kate Johns    Cleaning

Fr Matthew Newman our Parish Priest is a wonderful supporter of our school, nurturing our faith development, celebrating Masses and Liturgies, volunteering with mentoring, sports and bus driving.

Paul Northeast is taking some Leave for Term 1 and we wish him a pleasant and restful break and look forward to welcoming him back next term.

What an amazing staff team we have here at SMMS. We look forward to working with you throughout this year.

## SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL LEARNING

Social and emotional learning is lifelong, we are all always developing and growing these essential skills for life. Research indicates to us that if students are not feeling socially and emotionally safe and connected they are not ready and receptive for academic learning. I add spiritual learning to this important combination. We are a Catholic school with a strong Catholic identity and the spiritual learning we provide invites students into a loving relationship with Jesus and therefore everyone and everything around them.

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As you know classes have been having a focus on social and emotional learning in these first two weeks of school. This week the classes have been celebrating with Connection activities to continue to build on this. Classes have had games that encourage relationships, team building, cooperation and collaboration, resilience, confidence and enjoyment. Classes have already, or will later in the week, visit the beach (how fortunate we are to be so close!) for sport, games and activities.

Thanks to everyone – staff and students for the spirit with which you have planned and participated in this important learning.

How fitting for us to celebrate our social, emotional and spiritual learning with our Beginning Of Year Mass today. This is an especially important time to experience welcome, hospitality and connection in our community.

Thank you to Bernie, Fr Matthew and class teachers for our Mass preparations and celebration.

### CURRICULUM LETTERS

At the beginning of each term, class and specialist teachers prepare a Curriculum letter which is sent home. The Curriculum letter is an important element of our communication with you to keep you informed about your child's learning opportunities. The letter is to complement the Meet and Greet evening next week, Seesaw portfolios to be shared throughout the year, interviews, reports, informal conversations with teachers and your child. It is not possible to put everything into the Curriculum letter for the term, it provides a broad overview of the plan for curriculum areas for the term.

### OUR MEET AND GREET EVENING

We look forward to meeting you next week at our Meet and Greet Evening **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February (Week 3)**.

5.00pm	Drinks and nibbles in the MPLA – for adults
5.15-5.30pm	Michelle welcome all R/1 class parents/caregivers (MPLA)
5.30-5.55pm	R/1 class session
5.50-6.00pm	Michelle welcome 2 & 2/3 class parents/caregivers (MPLA)
6.00-6.25pm	2 & 2/3 class session
6.20-6.30pm	Michelle welcome 4/5, 5/6 & 6/7 class parents/caregivers
6.30-7.00pm	4/5, 5/6 and 6/7 session together

As you can see above there is 10-15 minutes before each class gathering, I will be presenting a very brief welcome and outline of some key whole school initiatives and information for parents.

As well as this, Francesca Tully (Student Support, Italian and ICT), Bernie Thomson (APRIM) and myself will be available for a conversation regarding the year ahead in our respective areas of work.

We do understand that there are a couple of families who will have a 'clash' in the times of their presentations, please feel free to follow up with your child's teacher to hear or receive this information if this is the case.

**Students are welcome to attend the night and are asked to head to the oval during the parent information sessions where supervision, activities and games will be set up.**

**Drinks and nibbles will be provided for adults in the MPLA prior to and between sessions.**

### STUDENT ABSENCE

In the case of planned absence, a note in the diary, personal notification to the teacher or front office or phone call, prior to the absence is required.

In all other cases of absence, parents and carers are asked to notify the school by 9.15am via phone call to 8823 2549 when their child/children are absent from school.

For Pastoral Care and legal reasons, we require an explanation for all student absence. In the event that notification has not been received a SMS message will be sent to parents asking for an explanation. We appreciate parent's prompt reply.

If there is a planned absence of five or more school days (ie family holiday) an **Application For Exemption From School** form must be filled in approved and signed by the Principal. Please see Karen Westlake for the form. In these cases of planned

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absence for holidays in term time, where parents choose to take their children out of school, separate work, homework or projects will not be set by the class teacher.

### COMMISSIONING MASS – SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

St Mary MacKillop School is an important part of the Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta Parish. This Sunday, at 10.00am Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Kadina, **our staff will be commissioned** by Fr. Matthew Newman to fulfil their mission to bring the strong teaching of Jesus to all parts of our parish school community - for us all to live life to the full as thriving, capable learners and citizens.

### COVID QR CHECK IN

As of today we are required to have a QR check in for covid tracing purposes. When you enter the school you must check in using the QR check in points: front office, MPLA entrance. You must do this for Assemblies, Masses, morning drop-off, afternoon pick-up, parent-teacher interviews, all visits to our school.

When you are staying to assist with reading, Lunches, class activities, you must sign in at the front office and you must QR Check In.

**The QR Check In does not replace our own school signing in system.**

### ROAD SAFETY

In the interests of everyone's safety and wellbeing, following are some reminders and requests:

- Please remember to always use the school crossing in the morning and afternoon should you need to cross the road. This is the 'safest' spot to cross the road and the area cars EXPECT you to cross at – even if you do need to back track a little. Crossing at other points can cause confusion and be a dangerous option. Please do not cross the road in front of our parked buses
- When parking cars, please be aware of our neighbours and ensure that you have not parked in a spot which would make it difficult for them to drive out of their driveway. Parking over driveways – even if it is for just 30 seconds is both unhelpful and illegal.
- Please ensure that your child always exits the car on the footpath side of the road. A number of students get out of the car on the road side of the car, this is a safety risk, especially if they are doing this on their own.
- We do have staff on crossing duty, assisted by our student monitors, however this is also a great opportunity for you to take the time to teach your child about crossing the road safely. Ensure they stop and look both ways, are not running and are focused on crossing the road. We are here to support you with this important life lesson.
- Please do not stop in the middle of the road to pick up or drop off your child/children
- Please check carefully when reversing
- Please do not do U-turns in the school zone during school hours

### CHILD PROTECTION - CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN

**"It takes a village to raise a child"**

This often quoted line is so true for our school community and so we all take care to do everything we possibly can for the safety, health and wellbeing of our children. We ask for your continuing support with the following:

### NUT FREE

We have a number of students at our school and OSHC who have various serious allergies. One of the allergens is nuts, meaning if the child comes into contact with nut or nut based products, this can result in very serious and life threatening reaction (anaphylaxis). As such, our policy states that NO NUTS and NO NUT based products are to be brought to school. This includes nut bars, Nutella / peanut paste in sandwiches and mixed nuts for fruit snacks.

### SMOKE FREE

An adult's decision to smoke is respected, however I reiterate that our school is a Smoke-Free zone and respectfully ask that there is no smoking in or around our school buildings and school buses.

In South Australia, it is illegal to smoke in cars while children (under 16) are passengers.

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### MODELLING

We all get frustrated at times and we all express this differently. How we cope with anger, frustration, disappointment will be what our children see, our body language, our words, our actions. It is important to model self-control and resilience as much as possible at these times. Children will follow our example and to this end we need to be very mindful of our language and actions. Please keep language polite and respectful around our school environment, buses and children.

### SPORTS DAY

Our Sports Day will be held this term on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March (Week 8, Term 1). There are many reasons for making this change to Term 1, one of the reasons being the number of school activities being held at the end of Term 3 and into Term 4.

Included with today's Newsletter is an order form for House Tops. New Reception students will have their team highlighted on their order form. Orders are to be returned by Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am.



### FRUIT FLY OUTBREAKS

Unfortunately there are fruit fly outbreaks currently in the Riverland and Metropolitan Adelaide. Our school is **located in what is considered to be the green not impacted area.**

Children, students and staff who live in the green area can continue to take any fresh fruit or vegetables to school or preschool. A letter accompanies this Newsletter.

### P & F

Our P & F will meet on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm. All welcome to attend our first meeting and contribute to our plans for the year.

### SCHOOL BOARD

Our School Board will meet on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm Finance Committee and 7.30pm School Board.

Thank you to our School Board members: Fr Matthew Newman, Bernie Thomson, Karen Miers, Lauren Donnellan, Nina Farr, Leon Schulz, John Iveson, Katie Crawford, Mandie Malone, Debbie Venning, Lisa Hawson Jane Owen, and Julia Agnew (Finance and Minutes). Remember that these people represent you for the best interests of our students and school community. I am looking forward to our first meeting.

### SCHOOL CLOSURE DATES 2021

Two dates have been set for School Closure Days for staff professional development and these are:

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June (Term 2 Week 1) – OSHC available

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December (Term 4 Week 9) – OSHC available

We have two more dates to set and parents will be notified of these as soon as possible.

**Blessings for the week ahead.**

*Michelle Miller - Principal*

## SURPLUS TO NEEDS - STUDENT DESKS & CHAIR FOR SALE

**LIMITED STOCK – MUST GO THIS WEEK!**

*Collection times Thursday, 4 February and Friday, 5 February 3:30pm-4:30pm  
(after school hours for ease of parking and student safety)  
and Saturday, 6 February 9am-11am. Bring a trailer and people to assist.*

Contact Julia Agnew 8823 2549 to secure your items  
between 9am and 10am on Thursday and Friday.

**PAYMENT VIA CASH AT TIME OF COLLECTION.**

PERFECT  
FOR PLAY  
AREAS AND  
CUBBY



### Blue Student Desk

Removable storage trays, 1200x600,  
Height adjustable  
**\$10 per desk**



### White Student Desk

1200x500 or 600,  
Varying heights (small and standard)  
**\$5 per desk**



\$2 PER  
CHAIR

### Student Chairs

Various styles, colours and sizes as shown above  
suitable for Junior, Middle and Upper Primary  
**\$2 per chair**



# Welcome to the 2021 School Year

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Please click on the link for a video welcome message for families, staff and students from Dr Neil McGoran, Director of Catholic Education South Australia.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mXn-DFbRV8&feature=youtube>

## New 7-9 Building

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Preparation for our building commences.



### NEWSLETTER INSERTS

1. House Top order form
2. Curriculum letters – all classes, PE & Italian
3. Fruit Fly letter

*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*

# Mass

The morning we celebrated the start of the new school year with Mass. Fr Matthew enlisted the help of Peyton, Lilly and Blake to assist him with his duties.

