



St Mary MacKillop School

NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday, 13th October, 2021 (Term 4, Week 1)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of SMMS,

I hope you were able to enjoy some quality family time over the school holiday break, while not everyone is able to have holidays as such, a change in routine is still good for a while. Now we settle back into routines for our fourth and final term of the year.

Scripture: Matthew 25:35

*"...I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat.
I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink.
I was a stranger, and you welcomed me..."*

The beginning of a new term can be seen as an invitation to refresh our Diocesan, and therefore school, theme of 'Come and Stay'. We have the opportunity to welcome new staff, new students and new families. How blessed we are to have this opportunity to welcome others into our school community.

WELCOME NEW STUDENTS AND FAMILIES – TERM 4 2021

With the start of the new term. We welcome:

Hope Ide in Year 6 (Hannah Cotter's 5/6 class)

Abigail in Year 1 (Charlotte McCann's R/1 class)

WELCOME STAFF – TERM 4 2021

We welcome:

Carol Burford – joining us as Curriculum ESO in Reading and Numeracy groups

Chloe Bacher – joining us as Year 6/7 class teacher

Marc Forster – joining us for Week 1 as Acting Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

Thu & Fri 14th&15th Year 4 and 5 Zoo Snooze

Fri 15th Friday Lunches

Tue 19th Mini Macs Playgroup 9.00-10.30am

Wed 20th Act for Justice, Have Less Day

Bread roll for lunch. Gold coin donation

Coloured Socks Day

Prayer Gathering 12 noon

Thu 21st T1 2022 Reception students Transition

Visit 8.45-10.30am

Thu 28th T1 2022 Reception students Transition

Visit 8.45-10.30am

Parish Weekend Mass Times

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta

Sunday 8.30am

Sacred Heart, Kadina

Saturday 8.30am

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 10.00am



In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge Nharangga Country and Australia's First Peoples as traditional custodians of this land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Hope



Chloe Bacher



Carol Burford



Marc Forster

2022 STAFF

I am able to provide some 2022 staffing news with you:

Charlotte McCann will be leaving us at the end of this year to take up an appointment at Stella Maris School. Congratulations Charlotte, we will cherish this last term with you.

Agatka Murphy will be increasing her teaching time as of next year. In 2022 we look forward to welcoming Agatka for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The Friday will be sharing a class with Jane Owen, as has worked so well this year. Thank you Agatka and Jane. Agatka's role for Wednesday and Thursday will suit the needs of the school and is yet to be finalised. Thank you Agatka.

Ali Ryan will be moving to 0.8 and not working Fridays for 2022. Amie Price will be teaching with Ali. We know you will be a complementary teaching combination Ali and Amie, thank you.

Paula Northeast will commence in 2022 in the role of Education Support Officer specialising in Years 7-9. During this term Paula will commence training and transitioning into the role. Congratulations Paula.

Bernie Thomson has held the role of REC and APRIM for 17 years in our school. We are fortunate that although Bernie is stepping aside from this role, she will continue with us in a 0.6 role, the days and the specific roles will suit the needs of the school and are yet to be finalised. Bernie will still be able to share her depth and wealth of experience and wisdom with us. Thank you Bernie.

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Sheridan Bonney has been appointed to the position of APRIM (Assistant to Principal in Religious Identity and Mission), commencing Term 1, 2022. Sheridan's substantive position is Year 7-9 teacher at Nazareth Catholic College, a position she has held since 2019. Sheridan's prior appointments have been teaching at St Francis Catholic Primary School, Lockleys; Galilee Catholic Primary School, Aldinga; and Sheridan commenced her teaching career here at St

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Mary MacKillop School, Wallaroo 2013 – 2016. Sheridan has a deep personal faith and a strong commitment to improving learning outcomes for all students. Sheridan's role will incorporate 0.5 APRIM and a teaching role; the teaching fraction of time and subject areas to be confirmed. Congratulations Sheridan.

Congratulations to the following staff on attaining a permanent role within our school:

Hannah Cotter (year level tbc)
Abbey Whitehead (year level tbc)
Lisa Hanson (year level tbc)
Masha Sudareva (Year 7-9 teacher)

Congratulations to the following staff on attaining a replacement role within our school for 2022:

Olivia Northeast (year level tbc)
Amie Price (year level tbc)
Andrew Mills (year level tbc)

Our staff are our greatest resource and so the appointment of staff to our school is an extremely important one and not without much deliberation and discernment. There is still quite a bit of working out to do for staffing in terms of teaching (class teachers, class allocations and specialist subjects) and ESO staff positions and placements. I will continue to keep you updated as this progresses.

THANK YOU TO OUR VACATION CARE STAFF

During the school holidays, our Vacation Care staff continued to provide quality and enjoyable care for your children. Staff and students visited the Big Rocking Horse at Gumeracha, the Adelaide Oval, the Cinema in Kadina; they explored nature, played board games and conducted science experiments. They will need to come back to school for a rest! Thank you to all of our OSHC/Vacation Care staff.

FIELD DAYS THANK YOU

Thank you to all parents and staff who volunteered to help out with our school and Green Plains Trail stalls at the Field Days. We had many visitors and many positive comments. Being first stop on the Green Plains Trail was definitely worthwhile. It was great to have a presence at such an important event for the Yorke Peninsula.

Thank you to the Field Days committee for all of the planning and preparations: Julia, Heather and Paula.

Thank you to all parents and staff who helped out with planning, setting up, packing up and being there on our school and P & F stalls: Julia, Heather, Ron, Paul, Bernie, Jane, Francesca, Ali, Lisa Caffyn, Emily, Karen M, Sharon, Charlotte, Sarah, Alicia, Lauren & Lucy.

Your time, enthusiasm and warm welcome to all was much appreciated.

ZOO SNOOZE THANK YOU

Thank you to Ali, Hannah, John Iveson, David Russack and Paul (bus driving) who will be taking the Year 4 and 5 students away this Thursday and Friday for their camp – the Zoo Snooze! This is an amazing experience and we wish them all a safe and exciting time away.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Reminder: Swimming lessons have been booked for our R-5 students for Week 6 of Term 4.

RECEPTION 2022

I have almost completed the meetings and school tours with the families and children who will be commencing in 2022 Term 1 with us in Reception. At this stage we have 20 students commencing with us in Reception at the beginning of next year. The transition visits for these children will take place on Thursdays for five weeks; Week 2-6 inclusive. The first two visits will be for 2 hours, the third for 3 hours and the final two visits for two full days.

Our Reception enrolment is significant for the very existence of our school and why we are here, therefore our whole school supports the visits and welcomes these young people and their families.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

HATS AND SUNSCREEN – TERM 4

Hats and sunscreen are to be worn for all Term 4 outside activities. Of course, we strongly promote this all year round, with this being compulsory for Term 4 and Term 1. If students are not able to use the sunscreen provided at school, please send their own labelled bottle to be kept in their bag or in the classroom.

“No Hat – No Play” as of Week 1, Term 4. Thank you.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADER

This term, at last, Lisa Caffyn will be able to devote time more fully to the Middle School Leader role. There is a lot of preparation and planning to do and while we have been working away on this, it will be good to really be able to concentrate on this for now.

PE/SPORT R-7

Lisa will continue to teach R-7 PE lessons. For the first four weeks of term, Tennis coaching clinics have been arranged through the Sporting Schools funding scheme. The lessons will take place on Wednesday and Friday at the town courts, coaching by Sam Clayson. Students will catch the bus to the courts (thank you to Paul and Fr Matthew!).

Following the four weeks of tennis, we will revert to PE lessons across Thursday and Friday as we had in Term 1 and 2. Class teachers will keep in touch with parents about appropriate days for students to wear their sport uniform.

COVID SAFE PRACTICES

Thank you very much for your support of our practices of scanning in and signing in to our school site, wearing masks, using sanitiser and observing social distancing. These practices need to continue please.

Parents are able to come into the school for specific purposes such as volunteering, important conversations with teachers and staff. We are not at the stage that we can welcome parents who want to come for social visits, as hard as this may be, please continue to observe this.

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with Shaun, Danie, Riley and Isabelle Miller on the passing of Shaun's mother (last week of Term 3).

OUR MORNING ROUTINE

Each aspect of our morning routine here at St Mary MacKillop School is deliberately thought through and has a specific purpose behind it.

Our school is officially 'open' from 8.20am. This is the time when have two staff on duty. While our teachers arrive much earlier than this, it is important to note that our staff spend a lot of time in the morning preparing for the day ahead and occasionally in meetings. As such, I ask that students not arrive prior to this time. We understand that occasionally with work or other commitments this is difficult, and with some prior notice we can accommodate the occasional early arrival in the front office, it is important to note however, that we need to be aware of this before the day.

Once students arrive at school they independently carry their own bag into school and unpack their bag, placing lunch box, communication book or diary and other belongings in the class room. This fosters independence and a sense of ownership over their belongings and learning. We are so proud of our younger students who have developed great independence with this morning routine.

Students are then asked to move quickly over to the oval for morning play. This is for two important reasons. Firstly, research and personal experience tells us that getting some exercise and fresh air prior to heading into the classroom increases a student's 'readiness to learn'. Secondly, it gives our teachers the time and space to prepare and organise their day. Occasionally, teachers will have meetings or not be in the room and so duty of care and supervision of students in the designated space of the oval is an important consideration.

At 8:50am the bell rings and students will walk over to the classroom ready for the day ahead.

7-9 SECONDARY COME AND TRY DAY - POSTPONED

Previously a Come and Try Day in our secondary facility was advertised for this coming Sunday afternoon 17th October. This has been postponed for now as we are still awaiting fitting out the 7-9 secondary facility with equipment. It will be much more fun and more to see and do if we wait until this all arrives. I will keep in touch and let you know of an alternative date.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BISHOP KAROL

Bishop Karol will celebrate his birthday next Tuesday 19th October. Happy Birthday Bishop Karol, from all of us here in Wallaroo! Wszystkiego najlepszego z okazji urodzin! (hoping the translation is correct!)

CONGRATULATIONS PAULA

A somewhat belated congratulations to Paula Northeast who completed a Certificate 4 in Leadership and Management with Tafe, conducted online and attending sessions at the Catholic Education Office. Paula actually completed the qualification at the end of 2019 but due to Covid the graduation has been postponed. Finally, Paula will attend her graduation ceremony on Friday of Week 2. Well done Paula!

PRINCIPAL APPRAISAL

The terms of my Principal appointment require an appraisal at the two year mark (my goodness two years have gone by!). The appraisal is conducted by two consultants from the Catholic Education Office, Sandra Hewson and Leonie DeGaris; and includes interviews with staff, parents and students and a presentation that I will share with the consultants. The process will summarise my leadership in continuously improving our school's Catholic Identity, Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement, and Operations and Management. At the conclusion, the panel will provide a summary including what is working well and areas to concentrate on for future improvement. This is a very important process and outcome to ensure that my leadership and our school is continually improving to meet the learning and wellbeing needs of our students.

HAPPY TERM 4

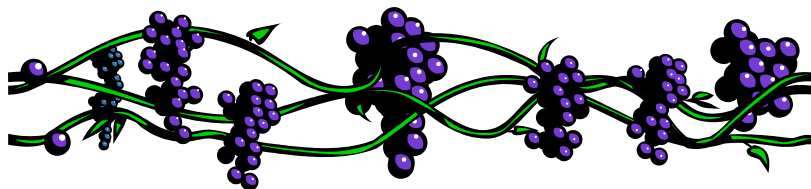
I wish you all a fantastic term ahead, it will be busy and exciting. I am always happy to listen to and hear about your thoughts about our school and your child's progress and development should you wish to discuss any aspects of it with me.

Blessings for the week ahead.

Michelle Miller

Principal

michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au



The Vine

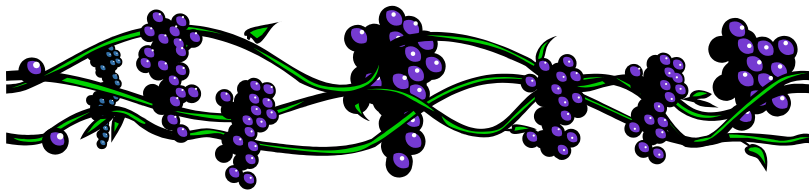
Welcome back to an active last term! We hope that your holidays were most enjoyable.

A special welcome to our Acting Principal Marc Forster while Michelle is taking a week's well-deserved leave after an extremely busy time over the holidays. Marc's substantive position is Deputy Principal at St Mark's College, Port Pirie – a very large school! Marc has been a constant strong presence in our school this week, bringing the message of our school value of **Relationships Grounded in Trust and Respect** to the fore in all of his interactions with our students. This value was re-presented in our Monday Morning Notices this week. Thank you Michelle.



The 11th anniversary of the canonization of St Mary MacKillop occurs next week, **17th October**. In this year of focus on **Hospitality of the Heart, Come and Stay**, St Mary MacKillop, through her caring and lived, faith-filled commitment to hospitality and welcome to those people marginalized and with little education opportunities in life, certainly continues to have relevance in our lives. She continues to inspire us to new ways of following Jesus and loving God.

It is appropriate that there is a world-wide focus on compassionate justice in October through the traditional observation of World Mission Month in the Catholic Liturgical Year as well as Anti-Poverty Week taking place.



The Vine

Act for Justice – Have Less Day

Week 2

Wednesday 20th October



A plain bread roll

for lunch



...and a gold coin donation!

In the wider Catholic Church, the month of October is known as World Mission Month. It is dedicated to raising the awareness of the needs of those living in poverty. **Act for Justice: Have Less Day** is the annual focus for SMMS's participation in the Catholic Mission promotion of advocacy for people in need and will take place next **Wednesday, 20th October 2021**. This Plain Bread Roll Day for Catholic Mission is intended to be an overall experience for our students.

There is a sacred connection to the bread roll. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35 Bread nourishes us; Jesus nourishes us through his message for fair and just living by showing us God; in the prayer which Jesus taught us, the Our Father, we pray...give us this day our daily bread...

This year, students across Australia, including those at St Mary MacKillop School, will learn about the missionary work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand who, through their Kindergarten Centre, are bringing about generational change to some of the poorest communities in Bangkok. St Mary MacKillop School community will contribute to this world-wide occasion of prayer, sharing stories of mission and social justice and charity in our own way.

Our "**Act for Justice, Have Less Day**" next Wednesday has four parts to it. Our students are encouraged to fully and generously participate in this community Social Justice event.

* **Act for Justice, Have Less Recess** - The students are encouraged to bring fruit as a **small recess snack**, in solidarity with those children in the slums of Bangkok who are living in poverty, with much less access to fruit and no access to processed or "junk" food. Their staple diet is rice. This may in some small way help our students to be attentively aware of acting justly in our world while helping others to a better life by being generous.

* **Whole School Prayer Gathering in the MPLA at 12:00pm.**

* **Act for Justice, Have Less Lunch** - A plain bread roll will be supplied for lunch for everyone.

We are asking all of our students to participate, to forgo their yummy snacks and big lunches and drinks on that day and instead have water and a lesser snack for recess and a bread roll for lunch.

* **Act for Justice, Have Less Day** - In addition, our students will be invited to wear **coloured socks** on this day as an extra fun way to trigger an awareness of this focus on the needs of others.



All that is asked are **gold coin donations** which will be directed to Catholic Mission in support of the work by Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand – an overall experience for our students

Grateful thanks for family and community participation is extended in anticipation.



Bernie Thomson

APRIM and Pastoral Care Support

Survey – Term 3 Learning Expo

Thank you to all of the families who gave up their time to visit their child's classroom during the recent Learning Expo. Students sharing their work with their parents develops 'agency', or ownership of their learning. Our student-lead Learning Expo fostered agency, and was a highly successful evening evident in the excitement expressed by the children.

Below is a snapshot of the feedback received from Reception to Year 7 families:

1. What did you like about the Learning Expo?

- The insights into what's happening in the classroom and the student's perspective on their learning.
- Finding out about what he has been up to and see the work he has done and how well he has done.
- It's great to see all his hard work, it's brilliant to have him so proud and enjoy reading it all to me.
- Loved seeing our children's schoolwork and coming into class.
- Great to see what the class has been up to and have it child lead.
- You could come at your leisure throughout the night.

2. On a rating of 1 to 10 how useful/valuable was the expo to you?

88% of respondents from Years' 4 to 7 rated the night between 8 and 10, out of 10

82% of respondents from Reception to Year 3 rated the night between 8 and 10, out of 10

3. Why did you rate it that way?

- Love the interaction between the students and their parents on the success in the classroom.
- He spoke very positively about the things he enjoyed and about his challenges and goals.
- Enjoyed the layout and student participation.
- Good to see the kids explain and show their work themselves, they were very proud.

100% of families from Reception to Year 7 reported that they would like to see the Learning Expo continue in future years.

In 2022 and beyond

Due to the overwhelming positive feedback from families, we are planning to continue the Learning Expo. Parent Teacher Interviews will still take place in Term 1 and the Learning Expo will replace interviews in Term 3. Next year, as Catholic Education transitions into using SEQTA, parents will be able to access their child's results regularly via this platform, thus requiring fewer formal interviews. Bearing this in mind, we are offering a last chance survey for you to indicate your preference around the continuation of our Learning Expo. The survey is one question only requiring a yes/no response and is anonymous.

If you wish to participate, please click on the following link. The survey will be open until the end of Week 2; Friday 22nd October.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F3SJRT3>



School Value Awards

Congratulations to the students who were recipients of the School Value Award at assembly in Week 10 last term. The award includes RESPECT, TEAM WORK, TRUST, COURAGE and COMMITMENT.



Y P Field Days

This year's YP Field Days were held from Tuesday, 28th – Thursday, 30th September, where St Mary MacKillop School had a site in the Hoecker Pavillion.

On these three days staff manned the site and was the first stop on the Green Plains Trail. We gave participants their bag which was designed by two of our Year 2 students Trae and Emilie. In their bag were leaflets about our school, a balloon, biro, hand sanitiser and either a cookie made by our Year 6/7 students or play dough kindly made by our Mini Mac parents whilst promoting our Catholic education to visitors. The Knex Ferris Wheel made by the 6/7 students and Mr Caffyn was a great hit with the children.

Some of our visitors to our site were old scholars, current scholars and their families, prospective families and parishioners.

A very positive and rewarding three days at the YP Field Days with promoting our school to our local and wider community.

Heather Griffiths



OSHC & Vacation Care News

Throughout the September/October School holidays our Vacation Care Program was full of fun activities in which the children engaged and a couple of excursions.

The children celebrated Rachael Zimmermann's last day at Vacation Care on our Big Rocking Horse excursion and made it a fun filled day she will remember.

We were lucky enough to visit the Kadina Cinema one last time to see Space Jam 2 and hope it opens again with new owners.

Our Early Works App is up and running with programming, photos, and observations of individual children. Families over the holidays enjoyed being able to see photos of what their children had been getting up to whilst at Vacation Care. If you have not filled out a permission form for Early Works, please see Lisa to get one, so you too can see our programming and the fun your children are having.

If your child is booked into OSHC and then does not need to attend for some reason, or is absent from school, you need to inform OSHC staff before 1.00pm or you may be charged. You can either call or send a TXT to 0437 659 137. Thank you.

Lisa Cooper

OSHC Director - 0437 659 137



OSHC & Vacation Care News



Mini Macs Playgroup

All children under 5 are welcome to join us at Mini Macs Playgroup in the hall every Tuesday from 9.00-10.30am for sensory activities, fun toys, a story and singing together.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Miss Combe	13 th October
Isabelle – Year 2	15 th October
Sienna – R/1 Combe	16 th October
Annabel – R/1 Combe	18 th October
Charlotte – Year 5/6	19 th October
Mrs Nitschke	19 th October
Caitlin – Year 5/6	21 st October
Mrs Duif	23 rd October



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from Professor Nicola Spurrier

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

The services and events contained in Community News are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children. Notices will be placed if time and space permits.



**Northern Yorke Peninsula
Little Athletics**

IT'S TIME TO
Give athletics a go!
The Foundation For All Sports

 **THE PERFECT PHYSICAL DISTANCING SPORT**

Family, Fun and Fitness for ages 3-17

Little Athletics is a modified athletics program for children of all abilities **aged 3 - 17 years** to develop and learn the fundamental skills used in many other sports: **running, jumping, throwing, and walking.**

2021/2022 season starts Friday 15th Oct

Kadina Memorial School - Senior School Oval
5:30pm to 7:00pm

Not sure if Little Athletics is right for your child?
We offer 100% commitment-free **Come & Try** sessions at our first two meets.


Simply register online via the link below and select the **"Come & Try"** option.
* Valid for the first two scheduled meets only (15/10 & 22/10) *


Register online:
<https://bit.ly/3z6h8ZI>

Or phone for more details:
Kerrin Williams 0408 852 635
Steve Larsson 0418 810 315

 Find us on Facebook: **NYP Little Athletics**

* School Sports Voucher accepted for Years R-7







**MORE FUN THAN
YOU CAN IMAGINE!**

MyGolf is Australia's introductory golf program for 5 to 12 year olds.

The program introduces kids to golf in a safe and friendly environment.

Participants learn new skills, make new friends and most importantly, **HAVE FUN!**

**REGISTER NOW AT
[MYGOLF.ORG.AU](https://mygolf.org.au)**

Junior golf program beginning this Sunday morning, 16th October, 10am at the Wallaroo Golf Club. Please see Wallaroo Golf Club Facebook page for full details. To register follow the link:
<https://www.golf.org.au/mygolf/facility/Wallaroo+Golf+Club>
Contact Nathan 0439470275