



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 W: www.stmm.catholic.edu.au

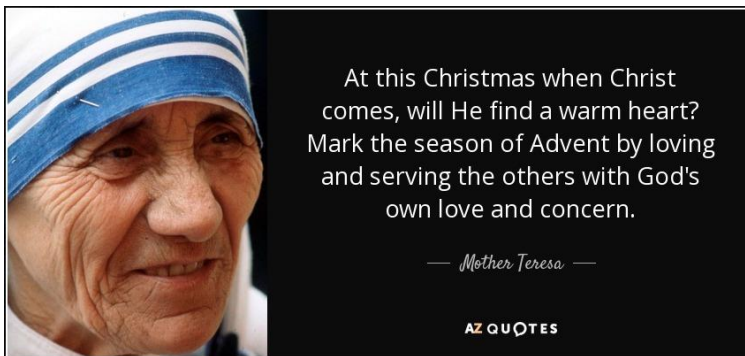
Wednesday, 24th November, 2021 (Term 4, Week 7)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of SMMS,

ADVENT

Advent is a Church season which is a time of waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming.



We have commenced our celebration of Advent so that we are able to fit in four weeks before our school year finishes.

We are so blessed that we have this time to reflect, pray and prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

During the four weeks (Weeks 6, 7, 8 and 9), we make Advent the focus of our whole school Monday Morning prayer and we also focus on Social Justice with our fundraising and collection of goods for the Vinnie's Christmas Appeal.

Awareness, Prayer and Action are three important elements of our Christian practice and we are incorporating these into our time of Advent, as a whole school and in classes. We are looking forward to the Year 2 class Nativity play which will tell the story of the birth of Jesus.

The 1st Sunday of Advent and the commencement of the new Church year will be this Sunday 28th November.

IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

Thu 25th SMMS Year 6 & 7 transition activities

KMS Year 6 & 7 transition visit 10am-2pm

Thu 25th - Fri 26th Year 2 & 3 Camp. Student drop off
Pt Hughes 5pm

Fri 26th KMS Year 6 & 7 full day transition visit

Sat 27th Year 6 Graduation Dinner 6.00pm

Sun 28th 1st Sunday of Advent

Mon 29th – Wed 1st Dec Year 6 & 7 Camp

DECEMBER

Wed 1st Subway envelopes due

Fri 3rd Year 2 Nativity Play 9am

Yr 2-7 Volleyball Carnival

Sun 5th 2nd Sunday of Advent

Year 7 Graduation Dinner 6pm

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

THANK YOU

Thank you to Chloe Bacher and the 6/7 class for an excellent Market Day last Wednesday. There were months of planning and preparations towards the Market stalls and on the day the students conducted themselves so responsibly, it was a lot of fun and all for a very good cause. The 6/7 students covered their costs for their stalls and then the remainder of their profits will be given to the Vinnie's Christmas Appeal - \$750. Wow! What an amazing effort.

TRANSITION

Thank you to all staff assisting with the transition processes at this time of the year; whether this be for new students, staff and families to our school or transition for those who are leaving us. Both processes are important in their own right and we provide caring support for all involved in this significant time of change.

Transition, moving on, preparing, is an important experience at this time of the year. Our Reception 2022 students have finished their visits to school, we now look forward to welcoming them to school next year.

Students staying with us for Year 6 and 7 in 2022 commenced their secondary school transition with a day of activities at St Mark's College in Port Pirie last Friday. Thank you to Lisa Caffyn, Masha Sudareva, Paula Northeast, Fr Matthew and Adam Cibich for making this possible. Also, a big thank you to St Mark's College staff for hosting us for the day, particularly Marc Forster who was instrumental in making the day happen for us.

This Thursday our SMMS 2022 Year 7 and 8 students will have transition activities in our 7-9 facility. The day will be conducted by Lisa Caffyn, Masha Sudareva and Paula Northeast.

Our Year 6 and 7 students attending KMS in 2022 will commence their transition visits Thursday (10.00am – 2.00pm), they will come here Thursday morning as usual and then travel over to Kadina with Hannah Cotter and Bernie Thomson, returning by 2.30pm. The students will have their full day visit on Friday.

I wish all students and families well at this time of transition.

GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

The first of our Graduation celebrations will take place this Saturday evening. We will have the Year 6 Graduation dinner, we look forward to a lovely evening, celebrating with students and their families.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Chloe Bacher who has been appointed to a 12 month Replacement teaching position in 2022.

CLASS TEACHERS 2022

Following are class teacher allocations for 2022. Specialist subject and area teachers are still being worked out and will be shared as soon as possible.

Reception:	Olivia Northeast
Reception/Year 1	Lisa Hanson
Year 1	Chloe Bacher
Year 2	Jane Owen (Mon-Thu) and Agatka Murphy (Fri)
Year 2/3	Abbey Whitehead
Year 3/4	Ali Ryan (Mon-Thu) and Amie Price (Fri)
Year 4/5	Andrew Mills
Year 6	Hannah Cotter
Year 7 and 8	Lisa Caffyn and Masha Sudareva

CONGRATULATIONS ERIN BLOTT – 2021 ST MARY MACKILLOP SCHOOL COMMUNITY AWARD

The School Board have initiated a Community Award to acknowledge the over and above contribution of volunteers who give generously of their skills, time and resources for the benefit of our children and school.

I am pleased to announce that the first recipient of this award is Erin Blott. We presented the award to Erin last night at the combined P & F and School Board end of year dinner.

Erin has been Secretary of our P & F for 6 years, she has attended meetings, circulated our minutes with speed and accuracy, shared her wonderful sense of humour, helped with organisation and running of school events such as Quiz Nights, Sports

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Days, raffles, Day On The Green; visited classes to speak about her volunteer work overseas; helped out with craft activities in classes and at OSHC (making amazing bath bombs!). Erin has been tireless and generous in her commitment and positive support of our school. Thank you Erin.



Karen Miers, Erin Blott and Michelle Miller

FAREWELL BLOTT FAMILY

The Blott family are moving to the southeast to live and Charlotte and Riley's last day with us will be on Friday 3rd December. We wish Erin, Chris, Charlotte, Riley and Madeline all the very best with their move, their new work, school and home.

WELCOME CHARLOTTE NEILL

Next week we will welcome Charlotte Neill for work experience. Charlotte is a past student of our school and we look forward to welcoming her back.

RECEPTION / YEAR 1 FUN

Our three R/1 classes are enjoying end of year fun. They went on an excursion to Kadina last Monday, including a round of putt-putt and McDonalds lunch. The fun continues this Friday when they will have activities on our oval including a jumping castle and some yummy food treats.

YEAR 6 AND 7 CAMP

Next Monday – Wednesday our Year 6 and 7 students will be away for their aquatics camp at Port Vincent. An exciting and enjoyable three days has been planned for them.

Have a great time on camp everyone.

YEAR 2 NATIVITY PLAY / ASSEMBLY

The Year 2 class will host their Nativity Play on Friday, 3rd December starting at 9.00am. Following the presentation of the Nativity story, we will have our usual Assembly items (including awards and notices).

Two visitors per Year 2 student are welcome to attend.

SMMS VOLLEYBALL CARNIVAL

On Friday, 3rd December our Year 3-7 students will be involved in a volleyball carnival. They will have covered volleyball skills in PE lessons at school and this will be a great opportunity to use the skills they are developing.

Year 3-7 students are asked to wear sport uniform with HOUSE TOPS on the day, have their school hat, drink bottle, sunscreen applied (additional sunscreen available during the day). Lunch orders are still welcome and we will deliver the lunches to them at the Sailing Club beach.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

START TIME AND SUPERVISION

Please note that students are not to arrive at school before 8.20am as supervision is not provided at the crossing or in other areas of the school. Prior to 8.20am teachers are involved in preparation and meetings. Supervision of students in the morning is between 8.20-8.50am. Thank you.

HEAD LICE

Head lice is quite a frustrating issue for families and we all start scratching our heads when we think about it! If you detect head lice in your children, please notify the school (office) as soon as possible so that we can send out notification to classes or whole school. The earlier we all get onto treating head lice the more chance of interrupting the cycle, and getting rid of them. It is important that all families check their children's hair frequently and if you receive a notification that head lice has been found all treatments, washing of hats, bed linen etc is carried out. We really need everyone on board helping with this. Thank you.

HOT SHOTS TENNIS CARNIVAL

Today our Year 3-7 students have enjoyed a Hot Shots Tennis Carnival in Kadina along with other local schools. Thank you to our staff for transporting and supervising the students and thanks to Tennis SA for offering the opportunity.

REPORTS TIMELINE

Teachers are currently working on writing Semester 2 reports, a wonderful summary of your child's learning, development and achievements. The reports will come home on Wednesday of Week 9 (8th December).

END OF TERM 4, 2020

A reminder that Term 4 concludes for our students on Thursday, 9th December.

Friday, 10th December will be a Pupil Free day for staff preparation and planning for 2022. OSHC will be open on this day.

KISS AND DROP

Earlier this year we established the 'Kiss and Drop' zone to encourage safety for all, increase flow of traffic and make drop off and pick up easier for parents and carers.

The Kiss and Drop zone is clearly highlighted with fence banners and is the area of the parking bays along the oval fenceline.

Please drive your car as far forward as you can in the parking bay, allowing as many other cars as possible to pull in behind.

The zone operates between 8.15-8.45am and between 2.45-3.15pm. At all other times regular parking is available in the area.

The emphasis is on quick drop off and pick up. If you are not able to do this within 2 minutes, please do not park in the zone, park in nearby areas and walk to drop off or pick up.

Thank you for your assistance with making this area operate smoothly for everyone.

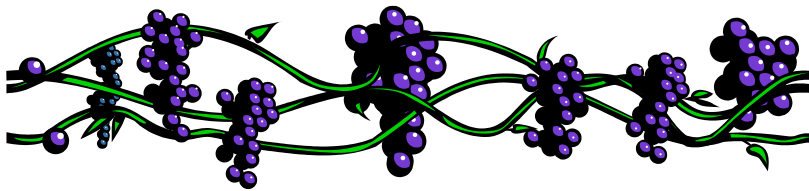


Blessings for the week ahead.

Michelle Miller

Principal

michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au



The Vine

ADVENT AND VINNIES

Advent – preparing the way of the Lord and creating anticipation through Scripture and Advent and Christmas activities. The season of Advent invites us to **watch, wait** and be **ready** in hope:

*To **prepare** for the Christmas feast that celebrates **God's coming into the world in the person of Jesus**. A small, vulnerable baby, born in the poorest of circumstances to humble, faithful and obedient parents.*

The **liturgical colour** of Advent is violet / purple (with a little bit of rose pink in Week 3). We know that our children become more and more excited as Christmas Day approaches, knowing that there will be gifts to unwrap, favourite foods to eat, and catch up with family, especially important in Covid19 times.

Our challenge in our very secular society is to ensure that all this anticipation and excitement places Jesus in the centre of our preparations, not an easy task. We need to watch and be careful that the commercial aspect of Christmas does not overwhelm us and that the core meaning of this season and feast is not lost. Our school community is preparing for Christmas and keeping Advent Christ centred with the Advent Social Justice activity – **Celebrating Christmas with Hampers for Vinnies**.

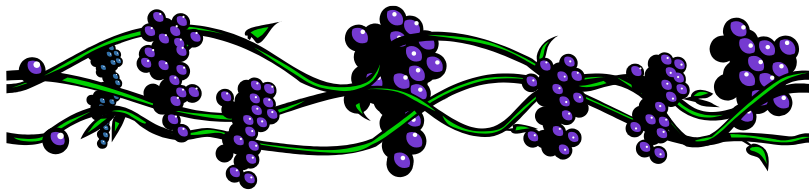
Every year at Christmas, our school community collects donations for Vinnies to distribute to those in need who locally. This year, Vinnies have a special emphasis on collecting celebratory items for their hampers. The intention is to provide more opportunities for the recipients to celebrate the joy of Christmas in the best possible way.



The donations will be presented to Vinnies at the beginning of Week 9. Boxes to collect donations for Vinnies Christmas Hampers have been placed in the Sacred Space in the MPLA. Also in that space is a Nativity scene which represents the people and the setting of the birth of Jesus, born in a stable watched over by farm animals! Each class has a Nativity scene to remind them of the real reason for the season of Christmas.

Items which can be donated include special celebratory food and decorations which we may put on our own Christmas table or in our home:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|
| *Variety of decorations | * bon bons | *Christmas tablecloths |
| *Christmas serviettes | *soft drinks | *Christmas cakes |
| *Mince pies | *Christmas lollies | *Christmas party food |
| * Anything which may help a family to enjoy their Christmas time. | | |



The Vine

CREATING CHRISTMAS CONNECTIONS

In all classrooms, and in the Sacred Spaces at the MPLA entrance to our school, the Nativity scene is the central focus, in addition to the Advent Wreath. In the MPLA the Nativity scene characters represent Mary and Joseph, shepherds, a village girl with water for Mary, assorted sheep and cattle and both an empty manger waiting for the birth of Jesus. The manger is really the feed box for the animals seeking shelter.



THREE WISE MEN



The Three Wise Men, astrologers from lands to the East of Israel, are making their way around the school passageways and MPLA, following the Eastern Star! Our students are helping them on their way. Our community finds them in a variety of spots during each day. They are certainly on a long journey! The Three Wise Men will arrive at the stable for a visit to the special new baby during the last week of this term.

This morning, they have been found to be taking a “breather” in the library!

ReLAT

Enclosed in today’s Newsletter is explanatory letter to all families of Year 4 students and an individual student report for last term’s Religious Literacy Assessment Tool online test in which all Year 4 students participated. Please direct any questions which you may have to Bernie Thomson.

Bernie Thomson

APRIM and Pastoral Care Support

2022 School Fees – Payment Plan Agreement Form

A friendly reminder all families are required to complete and return the **Payment Plan Agreement Form** indicating their payment preference for the 2022 school fees, **before Friday, 3 December (Week 8)**.

The form was distributed with the school newsletter in Week 5, along with the 2022 Fee Schedule. Additional copies can be obtained from the school website or by contacting Julia Agnew on (08) 8823 2549 or julia.agnew@stmm.catholic.edu.au.

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



SUBWAY LUNCHES – THURSDAY, 9th DECEMBER (last day of Term 4)

Subway envelopes were included with the Week 5 Newsletter. **Orders are to be placed no later than Wednesday, 1st December.**

School Value Awards

Congratulations to the students who were recipients of the School Value Award at assembly in Week 5 and on the following Monday. The award includes RESPECT, TEAM WORK, TRUST, COURAGE and COMMITMENT.



Water Safety Lessons

Reception to Year 5 students encountered all seasons for their Beach Safety Lessons last week. Year 4 and 5 students bravely went into the water on one of the very chilly days.



Year 6/7 Market Stall Days

On Wednesday, 17th November, the Year 6/7 students hosted a Market Stall Day to raise money towards the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Students were excited to design and create various elements of their Market Stall from their product idea to marketing resources. In total, we raised a profit of \$750.00. We had a great time selling products and experiences to all SMMS students including snow cones and sponge throw challenges.



Piano Lessons with Michele Giesecke



Connor likes to play Star Quest and is Learning Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer. He has been learning music for two and a half years.



Eloise has been learning music for two years. Eloise is currently learning Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer and Great News.



Billie enjoys her music, is always attentive and willing to learn. Billie's favourite song is Once a Man Was So, So Mad.



Trinity is keen to learn music. In this photo Trinity is playing Night Shadows.



Alexia has been learning piano this Year. Alexia's favourite piece is Merrily We Are Off to School.



Charley enjoys playing the digital piano. Charley's favourite piece is Go For Gold and Carmen's Tune.



Charley and Heath performed to Mrs Ryan's class on Monday, Week 7. Heath played Andantino and Charley played Carmen's Tune.



Haliah has music therapy each week. Haliah loves to play the rain and thunder on piano and enjoys playing to the beat of the music.



On the 15th November, Alexia, McKennah, Eloise, Jack, Billie and Asha performed to their teacher Mrs Owen and class.

OSHC & Vacation Care News

Due to limited spaces in Vacation Care and increasing needs for care during the school holidays, a booking slip with available dates was sent home in Week 5. We ask that you only book for the days you require as we have to allocate staff and provide a healthy food menu to cater for those booked in the holiday period.

The program will be released later as bookings need to be made on a need basis first of all, not activity based.

Updated Medical Information

If your child has a medical condition, please read the following.

For all children who attend our OSHC who have a medical condition, are required to have updated medical information around their condition every 12months. This includes having a medical management plan that is updated every 12months and signed by a medical professional, updated Action Plans from ASCIA as well as any further information that can help with the child's medical condition.

Form were sent home in mid-October. If you require another form or have any questions, please speak with Lisa.

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. This allows us time to offer bookings to other families and adjust our staffing. You can either call or send a TXT to 0437 659 137. Thank you.

Lisa Cooper

OSHC Director - 0437 659 137

OSHC Pupil Free Day

Friday, 10th December, will be a Pupil Free Day. Outside School Hours Care will be available from 8.00am to 6.00pm. Light snacks are provided, children will need to bring packed recess and lunch. Child Care Benefits will be paid accordingly and the cost will be \$60.00 per child. Please return the reply slip by **Friday, 26th November**, if your child/ren will be attending.

OSHC BOOKING FORM – PUPIL FREE DAY – FRIDAY, 10th DECEMBER

Return by **Friday, 26th November**

Family Name: _____

Signed: _____

Children requiring OSHC _____ Year _____
_____ Year _____
_____ Year _____

Bookings

Priority 1 – Children who are permanent Friday after school.

Priority 2 – Children of parents/carers who work this day.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Isabelle C – Year 2	25 th November
Ryda – Year 2/3	28 th November
Matilda – R/1 McCann	30 th November
Haliah – Year 2	1 st December



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. ReLAT letter and report (Year 4 students)

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.