



# St Mary MacKillop School NEWSLETTER

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**Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Term 1, Week 3)**

"Who Is My Neighbour?"



We have been learning about ways to be a good neighbour. One way to be a good neighbour is to:  
**Be generous:**

There are many things we can give away and all but one of them are free. Our time, talents, kindness, compassion, joy, and prayers are all free-flowing and meant not for hoarding but for sharing. We should be generous with our material wealth as well, even when it is small.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### FEBRUARY

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Friday Lunches

Tue 28<sup>th</sup> Mini Macs Playgroup 9.00am

### MARCH

Tue 1<sup>st</sup> Shrove Tuesday

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Ash Wednesday

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Opening of Sacred Heart Centre

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tue 15<sup>th</sup> **PUPIL FREE DAY**

Thu 17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> St Joseph's Day

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Harmony Day

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> The Annunciation

Tue 29<sup>th</sup> Sports Day

### 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

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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

This week we have welcomed back students in all year levels, it is great to be back with our neighbours!

### **STAFFING**

Mr Andrew Mills who was appointed as the Year 3 teacher has resigned his position and the Year 3 class is currently being taught by Mrs Sheridan Bonney, Mrs Francesca Tully and Mr George Hamra. I am extremely grateful to Sheridan, Francesca and George who have taken on this role and for their care of the Year 3 students at this important time and ensuring that their learning and wellbeing is of the highest priority. Planning and programming has been prepared for the class so that the learning is seamless between the teachers and has consistency across the term. We are currently in the process of appointing a new Year 3 class teacher and I look forward to being able to share the appointment with you soon.

### **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

#### **SCHOOL CAPTAINS AND VICE CAPTAINS**

We are committed to providing opportunity for students to have agency or voice, opportunities to share their ideas, have their say about things that are important to them. This year we are instigating the student leadership roles of School Captain and School Vice Captain.

The Year 7-8 students are eligible to stand for the School Captain roles. This morning Year 7-8 students interested in nominating for the role presented their speeches to class groups from Years 2-8. During the day, students will vote for who they believe will represent our school well as School Captains. Congratulations to Chelsea, Tyrell, Mia, Max and Hudson on their excellent speeches this morning. Their speeches were extremely well written from the heart and also extremely well presented.

The Year 6 students are eligible to stand for the School Vice Captain roles and next week they will present their speeches and then Year 2-8 students will have the opportunity to vote.

### **HOUSE CAPTAINS**

Following the election of School Captains, students will then meet in their Houses and students wishing to run for House Captain roles will present their speeches to their House. The House Captains will lead their House throughout the year, sports day is certainly highlight, however this leadership role is for the whole year.

### **STUDENT VOICE**

The next level of student leadership will be student representatives from each class, chosen for each semester. These students will meet regularly with myself and other members of leadership to share ideas, express concerns, make decisions and suggest and facilitate whole school activities and events.

I look forward to sharing with you the development of these leadership roles throughout the year.

### **TERM 1 CURRICULUM LETTERS**

This week the class curriculum letters will be sent home, next week the specialist areas curriculum letters will be sent home. This is to keep you informed of the curriculum that is going to be covered during the term, parents are then able to follow up with children at home and together we can revise and consolidate learning and make connections.

### **MINI MACS & ASSEMBLY**

Apologies for the misleading information in last week's Newsletter, Mini Macs and whole school Assemblies on Monday mornings will commence in Week 5.

### **SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL LEARNING**

During our focus weeks at the beginning of this term, teachers introduced or revised our student action plan for dealing with bullying and harassment. Following is a copy of the plan for your reference. If your child speaks with you about a concern, you may use the same language and SAFE steps to assist them.

It is important to discuss with your child / children the difference between bullying and being mean, unkind or just not reading a social situation.

Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Bullying is not:

- single episodes of social rejection or dislike
- single episode acts of nastiness or spite
- random acts of aggression or intimidation
- mutual arguments, disagreements or fights.

These actions can cause great distress. However, they do not fit the definition of bullying and they're not examples of bullying unless someone is deliberately and repeatedly doing them.

It is essential that school and family are in partnership, supporting each other in difficult times encompassing these times of relationship breakdown. Excellent communication, time, understanding and listening, along with our Restorative Practices come to the fore at these times.

Blessings for the week ahead,

*Michelle Miller*

Principal



## STUDENT ACTION PLAN for Dealing with Bullying and Harassment:

### Be S.A.F.E ACTION PLAN

STEPS	ACTION	EXPLANATION
Step 1 <b>S</b>	<b>S = Speak up</b> Ignore it or speak to the person.	Show that it does not affect you - the behaviour may stop. Or tell them that their actions are not ok and you want it to stop. Let them know you will tell a teacher if they do not stop.
If it does not stop		
Step 2 <b>A</b>	<b>A = Ask a friend to support you</b> Discuss it with someone.	Continue to try to ignore the behaviour and tell the person to stop the behaviour. Ask a friend to be with you when you do this. Talk to a trusted friend, teacher or parents, they may be able to help and offer other ways of dealing with the behaviour.
If it does not stop		
Step 3 <b>F</b>	<b>F = Find a teacher and report it</b> Report the matter to a staff member.	Report the matter to a teacher/ESO or staff member and discuss with them any further action that might take place. Remember to tell the teacher EVERYTHING you have done and EVERYTHING the other person has done.
If it does not stop		
Step 4 <b>E</b>	<b>E = Extra help – go to the Principal</b> Go to the Principal and report what has happened.	Discuss what has happened with the Principal and a decision will be made about further action to stop the bullying from occurring.

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the SMMS school community,

Each year, our Catholic schools have a diocesan theme that is intertwined in a variety of ways throughout the year. This year our theme is, **'Who is our Neighbour?'**

We will be exploring the key messages of being inclusive, hospitable and in relationship through finding common ground whilst accepting differences in others. We have divided components of our theme across the four terms:

**Term 1- Being a good neighbour to ourselves and others.** Staff and students will be unpacking the lesson Jesus taught us through the story of The Good Samaritan. The moral of this story is to put aside differences and help those who are in need of help. This also leads well into our Lenten Easter season where we often make extra commitments out of our ordinary daily routines to help others in need.

**Term 2- Being a good neighbour to creation.** We believe that the earth and all living things is a beautiful gift from God. Pope Frances says, 'we are obligated to care for the planet, just like caring for the sick.'

**Term 3- Being a good neighbour to our school community.** We will be celebrating the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop during this term. This is a great opportunity to understand how she demonstrated being a good neighbour and welcoming others.

**Term 4- Being a good neighbour to our local town and beyond.** Many connections will be made through our social justice initiatives leading into Christmas and collecting items for St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers.

***The overall main message of our theme this year will be to focus on how we can be more kind to those we meet around our school, at home, and in our community.***

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Phone: 8821 5803

*Sheridan Bonney*

APRIM

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK: Who is my Neighbour?**  
Generous God,

You gave us the example of Jesus who reached out with acts of love, welcome and compassion to all who were in need.

May we be inspired by the example of Jesus to help others with neighbourly acts of generosity and kindness.

May we be moved to care for our neighbour and our planet as we work together to make our world a place of peace, harmony, and unity.

We pray that we will always have the love and courage of Jesus to help us to "go and do likewise."

Amen

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The beginning of our Lenten season will start in **Week 5:**

**1<sup>st</sup> March- Pancake Day/ Shrove Tuesday**

**2<sup>nd</sup> March- Ash Wednesday**

**The season of Lent** is the time of year when Catholics prepare for Easter. It starts on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days. It is a time in which we remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ. During this time, we look to do kind and thoughtful things for others.

We will be fundraising money for the Catholic Caritas campaign called, **Project Compassion**, during Lent. A charity that supports some of the world's most vulnerable people and communities of poverty. The 2022 Project Compassion Theme is *'For All Future Generations.'*

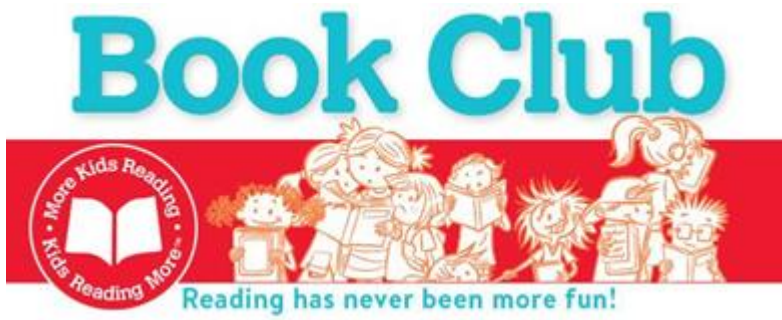
Students will be exploring this in conjunction with our *'Who is my Neighbour?'* theme.





# Library News

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Included in this week's newsletter is Issue 1 of the Scholastic Book Club Catalogue. If you would like to make an order, please return with payment by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

All orders are very much appreciated as they earn reward points for the school and enable us to purchase new books for the library.

*Sharon Steer*  
Library Technician

## Reception – Year 1 Classes

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The Reception and Year 1 classes have been joining together over the last two weeks to participate in social and emotional learning activities. Today we practiced using skills such as kindness, turn taking and problem solving as we played with various activities on the oval. We all had Zooper Doopers to finish the fun!



# OSHC & Vacation Care News

## CANCELLATIONS

When cancellations are made at short notice this impacts on staffing, running costs and other families needing to use the service.

Families must cancel permanent bookings if not required for Vacation Care, by Week 3 of the school term.

Any bookings for OSHC during the school term must be cancelled seven school term days in advance.

Any bookings for Vacation Care during the school holidays must be cancelled two weeks in advance.

*Lisa Cooper*

OSHC Director - 0437 659 137

## OSHC Pupil Free Day

**Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 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 Subsidy will be paid accordingly and the cost will be \$60.00 per child. Please return the reply slip by **Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> March**, if your child/ren will be attending.

### OSHC BOOKING FORM – PUPIL FREE DAY – TUESDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH

Return by **Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> 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**



Armani – Year 2/3	18 <sup>th</sup> February
Charley – Year 5/6	21 <sup>st</sup> February
Xavier – Reception/1	21 <sup>st</sup> February
Tyrell – Year 7/8	23 <sup>rd</sup> February
Tate – Year 5/6	25 <sup>th</sup> February
Harriet – Year 1	25 <sup>th</sup> February
Jai – Reception/1	25 <sup>th</sup> February



### **NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS**

1. Pocket Prayer for Parents booklet
2. Class curriculum letters for R-6
3. Scholastic Book Club brochure

*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.*

**PIANO LESSONS** – Held at St Mary MacKillop School during school hours. Contact Michele Giesecke on 0409 283 305 for further information. Lessons recommence on Monday, 28 February.

**GUITAR LESSONS** – Held at St Mary MacKillop School during school hours. Lessons for beginners to advanced. \$25 per 30 minute lesson. Contact Paul Boakes on 0407 790 820. Lessons recommence on Thursday, 3 March.