



St Mary MacKillop School NEWSLETTER

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

P: (08) 8821 5800

E: info@stmm.catholic.edu.au

W: www.stmm.catholic.edu.au

Wednesday, 16th March, 2022 (Term 1, Week 7)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome to Week 7, I hope that you all enjoyed the long weekend. The extra break was well timed in our term.

Yesterday on our Pupil-Free day our teaching staff worked on developing our understanding and use of the platform SEQTA and developing Personal Plans for Learning (PPL), for students.

We already use SEQTA to record student information and are expanding our use of it for entering teacher timetables and planning. The platform is accessible by staff, making information able to be shared much more readily.

We are gradually working towards next year when all student reports will be generated within SEQTA.

We will be implementing SEQTA in the 7-8 years to communicate with and report to parents later this year. We will be holding a SEQTA parent information meeting early in Term 2 to explain this.

The PPLs will be shared with parents over the last three weeks of this term and early next term.

The day yesterday was very valuable and allowed us much appreciated time to work on SEQTA and Personalised Plans for Learning.



Blessing and Opening of Sacred Heart Centre

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

Thu 17th St Patrick's Day

Sat 19th St Joseph's Day

Mon 21st Harmony Day

St Joseph's Feast Mass 11.30am

Subway lunch orders due

Tue 22nd Mini Macs Playgroup 9.00am

Wed 23rd Year 8 immunisations

Fri 25th The Annunciation

NYP Football Carnival

Mon 28th SACPSSA Swimming Carnival at Clare

NYP Netball Carnival

Tue 29th Sports Day

APRIL

Mon 4th Meet and Greet Evening 6.00pm

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

This week we celebrate the Feast days of two Saints in the Catholic Church.

SAINT PATRICK 17TH MARCH:

The dates of Patrick's life cannot be fixed with certainty, but there is general agreement that he was active as a missionary in Ireland during the fifth century. He is regarded as the founder of Christianity in Ireland, therefore the patron saint of Ireland.

When he was about sixteen, he was captured by Irish pirates from his home in Britain and taken as a slave to Ireland, looking after animals; he lived there for six years before escaping and returning to his family. After becoming a cleric, he returned to northern and western Ireland. In later life, he served as a bishop, but little is known about the places where he worked.

The colour green and the shamrock are associated with St Patrick. St Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to teach about the trinity: Father, Son Holy Spirit.

Students are invited to wear a small touch of green on St Patrick's day: green hair accessory, clover leaf, green socks or Woods House top (perfect).



ST JOSEPH 19TH MARCH:

St Joseph was married to Mary, mother of Jesus, and was the foster-father of Jesus. Joseph is regarded as the patron saint of workers and is associated with various feast days. The month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph.

He is associated with lilies, often appearing in images with him and as seen in our school logo. Lillies symbolise integrity and reflect that Joseph was a virtuous man who was pure and obedient to God, loved and cared for his family.

St Mary MacKillop was attracted to Joseph because of his humility and obedience and for this reason the order of sisters she established with Fr Julian Tenison Woods became known as the Sisters of St Joseph – of course the founders of our school.

We will celebrate our whole school Mass for St Joseph's Feast day next Monday at 11.30am. The celebration will be an outdoors Mass. We look forward to honouring our patron saint, St Joseph.

HARMONY DAY 21ST MARCH

Next Monday, 21st March, is known as Harmony Day, a day that celebrates Australia's cultural diversity, the many cultures and differences that bring such richness to our local and wider communities.

Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is fitting that we celebrate our St Joseph's Feast day Mass on this day as it is exactly the person that St Joseph was.

Students may wear a small touch of orange on Harmony day: orange hair accessory, orange socks etc.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

THANK YOU

I extend the biggest thank you to everyone involved in our blessing and opening of the Sacred Heart Centre last Wednesday. So many people contributed in the lead up preparations, on the day and in the follow up and pack up afterwards.

Thank you to:

- Karen W, for invitations, RSVPs, programs, ordering food, phone calls and preparations
- Lisa M and Heather for food and drink preparations on the day, all looked amazing
- Ron and Paul for setting up and packing up, for cooking and serving the barbecue
- Sheri for music, practising with students, helping with set up and all details behind the scenes
- Everyone who helped out Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning with preparations and setting up
- Lisa Caffyn's Uncle Bob for flower arrangements
- Francesca for welcoming guests, helping them find their seats, handing out programmes
- Bernie, Lisa C, Sue, Masha, Sheri, Lisa H, Francesca for setting up and packing up
- Bishop Karol and Fr Matthew for celebrating our Liturgy, Blessing and Opening
- To the students for their amazing behaviour and respectful conduct throughout the whole celebration, so many of our visitors commented on this
- Hudson and Chelsea our School Captains, and Harvie and Charlie our School Vice Captains, who helped with the ceremony, and assisting with guests

We were blessed to have many special guests attend:

Bishop Karol Kulczycki, Bishop Port Pirie Diocese; Fr Matthew Newman, Parish Priest; Professor Denis Ralph, Chair of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools; Mrs Nichii Mardon, Director Catholic Education Port Pirie Diocese; Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart and past Principals: Sr Shirley O'Loghlen and Sr Christine Schwerdt; Lisa Wheetra, of the local Nharangga community; Peter and Rosemary Sims, Peter is Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council; Mrs Margaret Pope, Councillor representing Mayor Roslyn Talbot; School Board members; Students; Staff; Parents; Parishioners.

We received apologies from many people unable to attend, including:

Emeritus Bishop Gregory O'Kelly, Port Pirie Diocese; Dr Neil McGoran - Director Catholic Education South Australia; Mrs Roslyn Talbot - Mayor of the Copper Coast Council; Mr James Quigley – previous Principal.

Emeritus Bishop Gregory O'Kelly sent through a message which I had the pleasure of reading out on the day and now share with you all:

To my regret, it has not been possible to cancel a previous commitment without causing upset, so I must tender my apology for not attending the blessing ceremony on Wednesday.

Please accept these few written words of congratulations. I did very much want to be present, and hopefully would have been able to say a word of thanks to the students and staff for their kindness to me, especially at the time of my conclusion as bishop of the diocese. St Mary MacKillop School shone out in the variety of gifts of produce and other items. I was quite moved by your thoughtfulness.

When the question of adding Middle School years to St Mary's came up for discussion when I was Bishop, I did not hesitate to concur and endorse the move. It would add stability and scope to a school already blessed in its staff and leadership, a school that was always dear to me. You may recall that we celebrated the canonization of St Mary of the Cross by placing the school under the patronage and title of our first Saint, one who had founded this school herself in 1869, when the Josephite Sisters had been in existence just over three years. It was an act of faith in the future, and your school remains, along with Clare, the oldest surviving Josephite school in Australia. I hope Sr Shirley is able to be present; she embodies that wonderful tradition of identity.

You are now taking this a significant step further, and invoking the Sacred Heart, part of the Sisters' title. May the love of Christ be known to all our students and staff in the school, and may the compassion, forgiveness and self-giving of the Sacred Heart be and remain a feature of the lives of all associated with your school.

Grace and peace, Emeritus Bishop Greg O'Kelly.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

STUDENT UNIFORM

WEEK 7

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY: School sport uniform (sport shorts, sport top or House top, hat)

WEEK 8

EVERY DAY: School sport uniform (sport shorts, sport top or House top, hat)

SPORTS DAY PREPARATIONS - FRIDAY SPRINT RUN-OFFS

This Friday morning, all students will be transported to the Town oval at staggered times for sprint run-offs. The House Captains will go first and remain there to help out, then starting with Receptions, students will be transported down on our school buses. Some students may need to go apart from their class if they are required for a certain age group. It is difficult to provide a detailed timetable as we do not know how long each group will take, this will definitely take from 9-11am and possibly continue after recess 11.30am onwards.

Following the sprint run-offs, the Year 7-8 students will stay at the oval for javelin and discus practice.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Change to isolation period for COVID-19 positive cases

From Saturday, 12 March 2022, people who are COVID-19 positive will generally only need to isolate for 7 days (rather than 10 days) after testing positive.

However, a person may only leave isolation after 7 days if they do not have acute symptoms, including a sore throat, runny nose, cough, or shortness of breath.

On days 8 to 10 after finishing isolation, a person should:

- Wear a mask when around other people
- Not attend high risk settings (defined as aged care, health care, disability care and correctional services).
- Continue to follow this advice on days 8 to 14 if they have a weakened immune system (transplant recipient or receiving chemotherapy).

Ongoing changes to the COVID-19 rules in South Australia

The State's COVID-19 Transition Committee will meet again today and further changes to various rules are expected to be announced in the coming days. Where those changes impact schools this will be advised as relevant to our setting.

REMINDERS

SPORTS DAY LUNCH ORDERS

Please return your Sports Day Subway lunch orders to school no later than Monday, 21st March.

SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS

Please return your School Board nomination slips.

P & F EASTER RAFFLE

Please continue to send in your donations for the P & F Easter Raffle, all items of eggs and Easter goodies will be gratefully accepted.

Please continue selling your raffle tickets and ask for more books if you can sell more tickets.

Blessings for the week ahead,

Michelle Miller

Principal

Parish Masses

Proof of Covid vaccination is required for entry into Church as per SA Health regulations.

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

School Prayer Book

Classes have been very busy creating their own special prayers based around our theme of 'Who is my neighbour?'



Isabelle – Year 3

We are working towards creating a whole school prayer book that can be used for class prayer, meetings and school events. Students are very excited to share the wonderful prayers they have created.



Year 4/5 students

St Patrick's Day

Students are invited to wear a touch of green tomorrow for St Patrick's day.

St. Patrick was a 5th-century missionary to Ireland and later served as Bishop there. He is credited with bringing Christianity to parts of Ireland and is one of the patron saints of Ireland.

Shamrocks symbolize St. Patrick's day because he was a Christian missionary who used a clover to explain the holy trinity of Christianity, which is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. He said **the three leaves stand for the three beings of God**, and the stem shows how they are united into one.

**O God,
Who chose Saint Patrick to preach your glory to the people of Ireland, grant, through his merits and intercession, help us to be an example of kindness and love. Help others who mistreat us understand what it means to be a good neighbour through our positive example.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever.
Amen**

Email: sheridan.bonney@stmm.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 8821 5803

Sheridan Bonney
APRIM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs 17th March- **St Patrick's Day**

Mon 21st March- **St Joseph's Day Mass**

Week 11- Holy Week

During Holy Week, we will be reflecting on the major events leading up to the death of Jesus. The week includes five days of special significance. The first is Palm Sunday, which commemorates Jesus' humble entry (on a donkey) into Jerusalem to observe Passover. Some key events for the week will include:

- Palm Sunday
- Holy Monday and Tuesday
- The Last Supper
- Holy Saturday
- Stations of the Cross



God The Father,
Christ The Son,
The Holy Spirit

Lost Property



Do you recognise these jumpers? The jumpers have been in the Lost Property box all term. Please let the front office know if they belong to you and they will be sent home with your child. The jumpers will be taken to Vinnies next week if no one claims them.

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Hope – Year 7/8	16 th March
Carter – Year 1	17 th March
Austin – Year 5/6	18 th March
Lilly – Year 3	18 th March
Miranda – Year 2	18 th March
Adelaide – Year 5/6	19 th March
Lilah – Reception/1	19 th March
Oliver – Reception	19 th March
Jack – Reception/1	27 th March
Noah – Reception	27 th March
Kade – Year 1	28 th March



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. School Board nomination form
2. Sports Day assistance form
3. Political Party Comparison 2022

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.

Kadina Pop-up Blood Donor Centre – Copper Coast Sports and Leisure Centre, 1 Doswell Tce, Kadina

Tuesday 5 April, 12.00pm – 6.30pm

Wednesday 6 April, 9.30am – 6.30pm

Thursday 7 April, 9.30am – 6.30pm

Friday 8 April, 7.30am – 2.00pm