



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, 30th March, 2022 (Term 1, Week 9)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We continue during this time of Lent to focus on ways of being a good neighbour to each other, to focus on ways that we can follow Jesus more closely. I found the following 'Good Neighbour Recipe' a good reflection on our theme for the year and a reminder of the qualities of being a good neighbour.

My Good Neighbour Recipe

Ingredients

- a sprinkling of happiness
- a pinch of kindness
- a teaspoonful of understanding
- 2 spoonfuls of sharing
- 50g of smiles
- 1 handful of helpfulness
- 3 heaped tablespoons of love
- 1 litre of cheerfulness
- 100g of respect
- a dusting of good listening

Method

- Mix all of the ingredients together and you will have a good neighbour.



SPORTS DAY 2022 – THANK YOU

Thank you everyone for such an amazing Sports Day yesterday. It all ran so smoothly and the beautiful weather conditions just topped our day off.

For me a highlight was seeing the examples of such good sportsmanship. A student just missing the high jump with the biggest smile on their face; a parent coaching their child in the finer points of shotput; students shaking hands and cheering for their mates in other Houses.

Another highlight was simply being able to catch up and chat with parents and grandparents after not being able to have you come into the school so much this term. (Hopefully this will change for next term.)

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

- Fri 1st Boy's Cricket Carnival
- Mon 4th Parent/Teacher Phone Interviews commence
School Board AGM 7.00pm
- Wed 6th P & F meeting 7.00pm
- Thu 14th Holy Thursday
PUPIL FREE DAY (with student supervision available)
- Fri 15th Good Friday
- Sun 17th Easter Sunday
- Mon 18th Easter Monday
- Tue 19th Vacation Care
- Mon 25th ANZAC Day

MAY

- Mon 2nd PUPIL FREE DAY (with student supervision available)
- Tue 3rd Term 2 commences

Parish Weekend Mass Times

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta:

Sunday 8.30am

Sacred Heart, Kadina:

Saturday 8.30am Sunday 10.00am

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wallaroo:

Saturday 6.00pm



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:

- Wallaroo Football Club for the use of the oval and facilities
- Wallaroo Primary for the use of their high jump mat
- Staff and parents for setting up and packing up on the day
- Scorers Karen Westlake and Julia Agnew
- Our P & F for their refreshment stall and coordinating Subway lunches
- Ohh my coffee van (Matt Hawson) and YP Donuts Van (Marie and Stephen Leighton)
- Fr Matthew our entertaining MC
- Graham Sobey for sound system
- Sam Clayson, our guest speaker
- Karen Westlake for all of her work behind the scenes with administration and preparations
- Parents, family members and friends for coming along to support the children
- Staff for their hours of support with practices, setting up and getting ready, providing encouragement and helping students achieve their best
- House captains, for their organisation, enthusiasm and leadership
- All students for training, preparation and great participation and spirit on sports day

I especially thank Lisa Caffyn for her overall coordination and planning, as I mentioned yesterday this is over eight weeks, along with everything else that continues to happen in our school. Lisa does so much working with Captains, organising teams and events, working with staff and parents in planning and preparations behind the scenes for every aspect of sports day.

Thank you to Karen Westlake, Ron Sherriff, Paul Northeast and Fr Matthew for their support of Lisa. In their own areas, they assist with administration, score sheets, programme, run-offs and trials, marking the oval, transporting and setting up equipment.

Thank you for our awesome Sports Day, our community can be proud of the day!

SPORTS DAY RESULTS - CONGRATULATIONS

Championship Team Shield – MacKillop

Team Spirit Shield – Woods

Record Breakers

SPRINTS – BOYS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TIME</u>
8 years	80 metres	Jhett Graham	13.46 seconds
10 years	80 metres	Lucas Finn	12.21 seconds

Record Holders

SPRINTS – BOYS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TIME</u>
14 years	100 metres	Lachlan Nash	21.12 seconds

LONG JUMP - BOYS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>
14 years	Lachlan Nash	2.31 metres

SHOT PUT - BOYS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>
14 years	Lachlan Nash	4.17 metres

JAVELIN OPEN SECONDARY – BOYS & GIRLS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>
Boys 12 years	Hudson White	12.32 metres
Girls 12 years	Chelsea Crawford	6.45 metres
Boys 13 years	Blake Walkley	12.07 metres
Girls 13 years	Hope Ide	9.42 metres

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DISCUS OPEN SECONDARY – BOYS & GIRLS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>
Boys 12 years	Hudson White	9.75 metres
Girls 12 years	Chelsea Crawford	10.72 metres
Boys 13 years	Blake Walkley	16.50 metres
Girls 13 years	Mia Dunstan	10.50 metres
Boys 14 years	Lachlan Nash	6.90 metres

NEW ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUPIL FREE DAYS **THURSDAY, 14TH APRIL AND MONDAY, 2ND MAY**

An important letter accompanies this Newsletter covering the announcement of Pupil Free Days that have just been announced.

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS – SEMESTER 1

Thank you to parents and carers who have responded with preferred interview times. The intention was to have face-to-face interviews, however, as already stated, the Covid settings currently in place require phone meetings unless face-to face is deemed essential.

Interviews scheduled for Week 10 and 11 of this term will be by phone.

The format for interviews scheduled for Week 1 and 2 of next term will be advised as further Covid information for our school setting is notified.

Notification of the time booked for your interview/s will be sent out this week.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Class Assemblies have been postponed this term.

SCHOOL BOARD AGM

Our School Board Annual General meeting will be held next Monday, 4th April, in the Kalori Building (MPLA) beginning at 7.00pm. This is a great opportunity for ALL parents and families to hear about the achievements of the past 12 months and the goals and future direction for the next 12 months. It is essential that you return the RSVP form – whether you are attending the night or not.

It was intended to begin the evening with a Meet and Greet teachers and visit classrooms (whole school) but with Covid settings in place until the end of Week 11, this will not be possible now. Thank you for your understanding.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Thank you to our P & F for organising and running their stall at Sports Day yesterday and thanks to everyone who supported them will helping to serve and purchasing from the stall.

While our fundraising from the day will not be high, it was important to have the presence of our P & F in such a way that they were still free and able to enjoy the day along with everyone else.

Please remember our Easter Raffle, keep selling tickets and we would appreciate your donations of chocolate eggs, bunnies, and any other Easter treats. Books needs to be returned Wednesday, 6th April

Our next P & F meeting will be held next week, Wednesday, 6th April, at 7pm (MPLA-Kalori Building). This will be a fun meeting with drinks and nibbles, a perfect time for you to come along if you have been thinking about coming to a meeting and haven't quite joined us yet. You are welcome!



NAPLAN 2022

Our students and staff did a great job last Thursday with the NAPLAN Practice Test, it all went very smoothly and as well as giving students a good experience of what the testing will be like, it helped us to iron out a few final details so that we are ready for NAPLAN in Term 2. Thank you to Francesca Tully who coordinates NAPLAN testing for our school.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SPORTING CARNIVALS

Many sporting carnivals have been cancelled or postponed due to Covid. It is certainly not that we do not want to offer the opportunity but many schools are heavily affected by Covid with numbers of students and staff out, making it very difficult to run such events.

Thank you for your understanding.

WELCOME

We welcome Hayley Moffat to our teaching staff. Hayley has joined us as R-6 Science teacher. Hayley will teach R-3 Science on a Tuesday and 4-6 Science on a Wednesday.

There may be changes to this during weeks such as this week, with Sports Day yesterday.

We welcome Morgan Richardson to our Year 3 class. We hope that Morgan settles in well to her new school.

Welcome Hayley and Morgan.

CONGRATULATIONS

DOLPHINS SWIMMING TEAM

The team competed in the Catholic School swimming carnival held in Clare on Monday. The team came fourth overall and the swimmers won many ribbons for places. Congratulations to Eloise for winning the Year 3 Age Champion.

Well done: Trinity, Amaya, Madison, Charley, Isabelle, Mileah, Eloise, Ari, Jess, Amelia and Johanna.

Thank you to Lisa Caffyn, Fr Matthew and the parents and grandparents who accompanied and supported the team.



BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Louise and Clayton Story on the arrival of their baby boy Casey. A little brother for Ava in Reception. We wish your family all the very best.



STAFFING

There is a general shortage of teaching staff in the Copper Coast area and this includes relief teachers or TRT (Temporary Relief Teacher).

When our teaching staff are away, sometimes this is with prior notice and sometimes notice can be on the day, either way it is not easy or always possible to find a replacement teacher. The ideal situation is to have a TRT with a class when the teacher is absent, sometimes teaching staff in our school with other roles will forgo those roles and take lessons or a class for the day. Times when even this is not possible, we may have to put students in with other classes. All other options are explored before doing this.

We also can have the same situation with our Educations Support staff (ESOs), so there are times when the extra support that is provided by ESOs may not be able to go ahead due to absence.

The students learning and wellbeing is always our priority and we ask for your understanding at such times.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

CONGRATULATIONS ON ELLA TRIAL

For three years now Francesca Tully has initiated our junior school taking part in a languages app trial, we know the app as ELLA. Students in R-2 have enjoyed using the app to complement and consolidate their learning of the Italian language.

One of the trial coordinators and researchers, Prof Hilary Davey will be visiting our school this Friday 1st April to observe students using the app, interview them and Francesca and gather data about the effectiveness of the app in supporting language learning.

This is a fantastic achievement for our school to be chosen to be a part of this. Congratulations Francesca and our R-2 students on implementing the ELLA app over the last three years.

STUDENT UNIFORM WEEK 9-11

Student uniform will now revert to formal uniform and sport uniform on class designated Dance and PE days. The sport uniform to be worn is the SCHOOL SPORT UNIFORM.

Students will be invited to wear House tops for special occasions as notified. Thank you.

STUDENT HAIRSTYLES

Students have been reminded through our weekly notices that hair longer than collar length must be tied back, as outlined in our Uniform Policy. Students will be asked to do this here at school if they are not abiding by the policy.

NATIONAL COVID VACCINE TASKFORCE FLYER

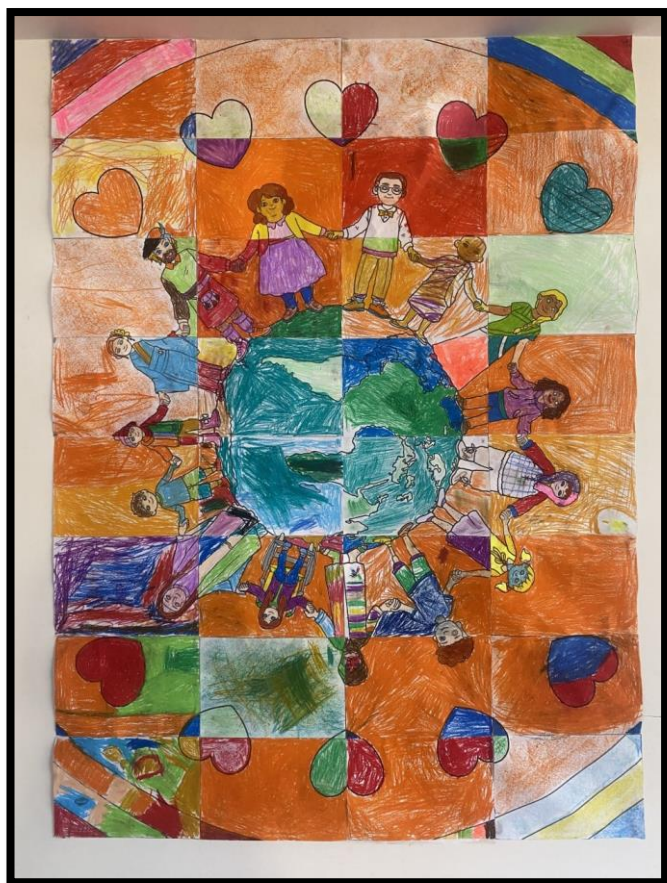
The National COVID Vaccine Taskforce has requested that the flyer accompanying this Newsletter be distributed.

Blessings for the week ahead,

Michelle Miller

Principal

R/1 & 2/3 Buddy Classes



Monday, 21st March, the R/1 and 2/3 Buddy classes joined together for a collaborative art project to celebrate Harmony Day and the Feast of St. Joseph. Each group had to work collaboratively together to complete their piece of the puzzle, before joining the artworks together.

Just like each of us need to work in harmony together to make a better world.

St. Joseph was a shining example of someone who understood that everyone matters and how to be at peace and live in harmony.

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

Chrism Mass and Diocesan Assembly

This event occurs on a yearly basis where communities from all over the Port Pirie Diocese meet together to celebrate the yearly theme and our Catholic faith. Both of these events are held in Port Pirie. Students are unable to attend this year due to COVID, however we will ensure our staff representatives pass on any important information to our school community

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

During our Pupil Free Day in Week 7, for morning prayer, staff looked closely at St Mary MacKillop and her personality and traits. One of the stories we looked at reflected on the immense forgiveness and compassion she had. She was a prime example of being a good neighbour:

In the mid-1860s, Mary and her sister Annie were teaching in the Catholic school in Portland, Victoria. By combining their income, they were able to reunite and support their family. Mary wrote at this time, 'I have never been so happy.' The happiness was short lived.

One day, anticipating the arrival of the inspector of the school, the principal rearranged all the classes, swapping some of his poorly performing pupils with well taught children from Mary's end on his classes. The inspector criticised them for inadequate teaching. After their father spoke out publicly about this injustice, Mary and Annie lost their jobs and were the subject of lies in gossip

Many years later when Mary was in Sydney, she met a dirty, alcoholic, homeless man at Circular Quay. She instantly recognised him as her former principal. She sold her watch so that she could provide him with clothes in care.

Dear God,

You gifted Mary MacKillop with vision and courage.

In her we see one who was not afraid to speak fearlessly your gospel of love.

We pray for the sensitivity and imagination to read the signs of our times, and to articulate new possibilities for our own day. Like Mary, may we learn to confront all that is oppressive and unjust, and empower others towards true freedom and integrity. Spirit of wisdom, be with us as we face new horizons.

Amen

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

Sheridan Bonney
APRIM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 5th April- Diocesan Assembly

**Wednesday 6th April- Chrism Mass
Week 11- Holy Week**

We will be celebrating the key events of Holy Week as following:

- Mon: Palm Sunday

- Tues: The Last Supper

- Wed: Stations of the Cross



National School Chaplaincy Programme

I am Bernadette Thomson. I am continuing to fulfill the St Mary MacKillop School Chaplaincy role which works within the guidelines and Federal Government funding of the National School Chaplaincy Programme.

Most of my role takes place on an incidental basis, advocating for the students, understanding and responding to the myriad of social and emotional, mental health and well-being needs and challenges which occur for our students during any ordinary school day! This Pastoral Care service is well-supported and easily accessed by students and families if necessary.

Connection with the Chaplaincy Network has affirmed for me the importance, in the school community, of a well-accepted pathway of non-judgemental listening and safe practices and spaces, which is true for our school environment. The practice of deep listening is so important for students who may be experiencing struggles and challenges. No one struggle or challenge is exactly the same – every child matters!

The students, for many years, have appreciated an easily recognisable and accessible connection / peace space – a place to quietly re-set without judgement. Ongoing, undemanding but student-led conversations help bring this about. The **Peace Space** has been relocated and has been quite busy – in a peaceful way!

Breakfast Bites

Weekly Breakfast Bites is well-loved by our students and is a Chaplaincy initiative. Breakfast Bites will return in Term 2 after being put on hold in the middle of last year because of COVID safe requirements. Breakfast Bites offers an inclusive opportunity for the students to enjoy cereal, toast and fruit on the oval before school every Wednesday morning if they wish to do so. There were always plenty of students willing, and choosing, to help with the delivery of Breakfast Bites on the oval every Wednesday morning. With the advent of our Middle School, there will be extra input and skills shared from the Year 7-8 students to complement the volunteer skills of the primary students who are already asking to be part of Breakfast Bites.

Bernie Thomson

Chaplain



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

Sports Day Photos



Sports Day Photos



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Madison – Year 2/3	31 st March
Cameron – Reception/1	31 st March
Rylee – Year 3	3 rd April
Scarlett – Year 2	5 th April
Marley – Year 1	7 th April



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. Covid-19 Update
2. Vaccination flyer
3. P & F flyer

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.

Copper Coast Table Tennis Club are seeking junior and senior players for their winter competition which starts on wed 20th April. If you are interested in playing this fast paced, vibrant and family friendly sport the club is holding free Come N Try nights on Wed 6th and 13th of April from 7pm at the Kadina Showgrounds off Agery Road. The club has bats available if you do not have one. Please note that the club has a no vaccination/no play policy in line with SA health requirements and proof of vaccination for all players and spectators is required. Enquiries to Lyndon 0427892054