



St Mary MacKillop School

NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday, 15th February, 2023 (Term 1, Week 3)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

SPORTS DAY

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH
WALLAROO FOOTBALL OVAL



Included in today's Newsletter is a Sports Day Assistance, OSHC booking and Bus booking form. Please complete and return to school by Friday, 24th February.

The Parents and Friends will be selling drinks at Sports Day and we will have Subway for lunches or families are welcome to bring a picnic lunch. Subway order envelopes will be sent home next week with the newsletter.

More information about Sports Day will be sent home in the following weeks.

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY

- Thu 16th Middle School Open Day
9.00-10.00am & 6.00-7.00pm
- Sat 18th Staff Commissioning Mass 6.00pm
- Fri 24th Dolphins Swim Team training 2-3pm
- Tue 21st Shrove Tuesday / Pancakes
(gold coin donation)
- Wed 22nd Ash Wednesday
Ash Wednesday Liturgy, 11.45am – Star of the Sea Church, Wallaroo. ALL WELCOME

MARCH

- Fri 3rd World Day of Prayer
- Wed 8th Sports Day at Wallaroo Oval
- Fri 10th PUPIL FREE DAY (OSHC available)
- Mon 13th Public Holiday

Parish Weekend Mass Times

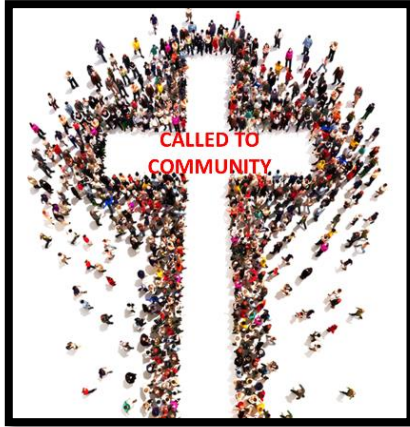
- St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta:
Sunday 8.30am
- Sacred Heart, Kadina:
Saturday 8.30am Sunday 10.00am
- Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wallaroo:
Saturday 6.00pm



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

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?



SACRED SPACE

In the MPLA, we have a sacred space that reflects our Catholic Identity. In this space, I share important events and different aspects of our Catholic faith and Catholic traditions. As yesterday was Valentine's Day, the focus is related to Valentine's Day.



We don't know a lot about St Valentine but we do know that he was a priest and a Christian martyr in Rome. He became friends with a jailer's daughter who was named Julia. Through God, St Valentine healed her blindness and when he wrote her a letter, he signed it From Your Valentine. That might be why we send cards and letters to our "valentine" now. St Valentine also helped people in love get married, this may be why we think of love when we think of Saint Valentine. Even after all this time, we still tell stories about Saint Valentine and celebrate him and his faith.

St Valentine is not only the patron saint of love he's also the patron saint of beekeepers and charged with ensuring the sweetness of honey and the protection of beekeepers.

We cannot all do great things but we but we can all do **small** things with **LOVE**. How will you show your love to others the love of Christ.



BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS

We thank those families, parishioners and community members that celebrated the Beginning of Year Mass with us.

COMMISSIONING MASS

On **Saturday, 18th February**, the staff will be having their **Commissioning Mass at Star of the Sea Church, at 6:00pm**. Again, we would love the students, families, and parishioners to support us at the special mass.

During the Mass, Fr Chris will bless the staff and commission them in their work as staff who have the privilege of helping all the children in our school.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Tuesday, 21st February, is Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter – was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Christians went to confession and were forgiven for their sins.

Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients.



The Year 6-8 students will be preparing and cooking pancakes for us all on that day. Each class will go to the Sacred Heart Centre before recess to enjoy these yummy pancakes. **Students are asked to give a gold coin donation on the day.**

All money raised through gold coin donations for pancakes will go towards our fundraising for 'Project Compassion' which will run through the time of Lent.

If you are able to donate a condiment such as strawberry jam, apricot jam, maple syrup, lemons etc, it would be greatly appreciated.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, 22nd February, is Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is one of the most well-known and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday begins Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.



We will be holding our **Ash Wednesday Liturgy, at Star of the Sea Church at 11:45am**. During the Liturgy, people will receive ashes on their forehead. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As Fr Chris applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Turn away from doing wrong and follow in God's way." Again, we would love to see the families and parishioners at the Liturgy.

LENT

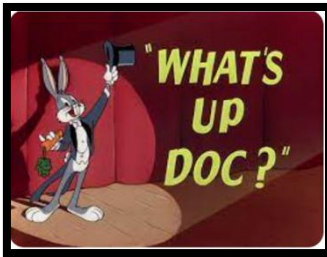
Lent is the six-week period leading up to Easter. It is a significant time of self-reflection and preparation for many Christians around the world. Lent is more frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. From the start on Ash Wednesday until conclusion on Easter Sunday, Lent has been a traditional time for fasting or giving something up. Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death, and body resurrection.

May God bless you in every way in this new week. I pray that you have peace of mind and good health.

Mrs Francesca Tully

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

WHAT'S UP DOC



WRITING FOCUS

Welcome. What's up? Well, throughout the year I will be writing this column to introduce you to aspects of student learning at St Mary MacKillop School. Sometimes the information will be around areas we have implemented for many years, and other times I will share information around new initiatives we are undertaking in 2023. I hope you find the information of interest. Please feel free to contact me if you would like clarification or more information.

This year staff have identified student writing as an area warranting further focus. As such, staff have begun attending professional development training in the teaching of writing to students. This updating of teacher knowledge is a significant investment in cost and in time (some of the online training is at 4.30am on Saturday mornings!)

We understand that 'how' we write is as important as 'what' we write. Therefore, the training which staff are currently involved in has a focus on targeted sentence-level instruction followed by targeted paragraph-level instruction. Research also tells us that writing about what we learn helps understanding, memory, and comprehension (AERO 2022). Hence, we are implementing writing instruction across the curriculum with all staff implementing the same sentence and paragraph strategies we are learning about. This means that no matter in what curriculum area a writing task is given, students will be required to use the same writing strategies. This is exciting work. In term 1, staff are focussing on learning and teaching sentence strategies including sentence expansion, sentences and fragments, basic conjunctions, sentence types, scrambled sentences, and sentence combining. You may see a difference in what your child/ren are writing and they may be excited to share their writing with you.

PAST SCHOLARS

I am also pleased to include the first past scholar profile today. This will be a regular addition to this year's newsletter. I hope you find this a captivating read.

Best wishes to you for a fabulous year of learning for your child/ren.

Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) Ltd. (2022), Writing and writing instruction: an overview of the literature, [edresearch.edu.au](https://aero.edresearch.edu.au)

Dr Annette Morphet

LEADER OF LEARNING

PAST SCHOLAR NEWS



Briony Kennewell (nee Thoday)
Class of 1979 (Year 7)

What ignited your passion for your career choice?

I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do after leaving school. I was keen to do a job where I felt that I was contributing to the community and I wanted to help people. I was tossing up between doing something in the medical field and law. When I started studying law I loved it. I was always interested in crime stories and one of my first jobs after graduating from school was working as a prosecutor at the DPP.

What have been some defining moments in your career and life?

I worked at the DPP for about 15 years. During this time I had two children and worked part time while they were young. I then worked at the Crown Solicitor's Office before being appointed a Magistrate in 2016. While at the Crown I was able to combine my interest in health with the law as for 5 years I was out posted to the Department for Health and provided advice to all of the public hospitals and the South Australian Ambulance Service. This job was really interesting as it involved a mix of legal and ethical issues in the medical field.

Since being a Magistrate I have enjoyed having the opportunity to travel to country courts and in particular, sitting at the Kadina Magistrates Court.

What advice would you give our current students?

I would advise students not to worry if they are not sure what they want to do when they leave school or if they don't get the results they need to get immediately into their chosen career. There are many different pathways you can take and sometimes it takes trying a few different courses or jobs until you find what suits you best.

What is your favourite memory of your time at Kalori Catholic/St Mary MacKillop School?

My favourite memory of Kalori was when we combined with the Kadina school and my year level grew from 3 students to 8. I also loved walking down to the jetty with the school to do swimming lessons in the summer.

OSHC PUPIL FREE DAY

Friday, 10th 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 Benefits will be paid accordingly and the cost will be \$60.00 per child. Please return the reply slip by **Friday, 24th February**, if your child/ren will be attending.

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

Return by **Friday, 24th February**

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



Harlow – Year 1	15 th February
Armani – Year 3/4	18 th February
Xavier – Year 1	21 st February
Harriet – Year 2/3W	25 th February



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. Sports Day Assistance & Booking Sheet

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.

Messy Church

Kadina Uniting Church Hall

Friday 17th February 3.15pm— 5.30pm

Family Time



- Creative activities for Children
- Time for story and sharing what they have created
- Meal provided
- Donation towards costs appreciated

*For more information
call*

*Jane Gersch
0428 218 255*