



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, 18th October, 2023 (Term 4, Week 1)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of SMMS,

Welcome back for the start of Term 4. I hope that everyone enjoyed a break from the routine and are refreshed for the term ahead.

STAFF NEWS

Francesca Tully is on Long Service Leave for Week 1 and 2. We wish her a very well-earned and restful break. Even during her time of Leave, Francesca will come into school next Wednesday morning to facilitate our Coin Collection for Catholic Missions. Thank you, Francesca.

Thank you to Jenny Geyser who is teaching Italian lessons for Week 1 and 2.

Sue Wharton will be taking two weeks Leave in Week 5 and 6.

Lisa Caffyn will be taking four weeks Long Service Leave later in the term, Weeks 6-9.

Ali Ryan will be taking one week Leave in Week 9.

STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to the student team (Team Chemistry Cool) from Amie and Ali's class: Eloise, Isabelle C, Madi W, Amani, Haliah on their Arludo National Game Design Challenge presentation at University of New South Wales, Sydney on Tuesday, 10th October. The girls (unfortunately Haliah could not go), flew with family members to Sydney for the finals. They had to pitch their game to the audience and judges. Unfortunately, they did not win overall, they came 4th and to us they were winners by making it to the national top 10 and coming 4th. A wonderful achievement and experience.

Thanks, and congratulations to Amie for facilitating the opportunity for the students in the 4/5 class and thank you to families who at short notice arranged to get the girls to Sydney for the Challenge.

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

Fri 20th Friday Lunches – USE P&F QKR APP
Mon 23rd – Thu 26th Year 8-9 Canberra trip
Mon 23rd P & F Raffle drawn
Tue 24th Mini Macs Playgroup 9.00am
Wed 25th Coin Drive for Catholic Missions – wear crazy socks
Mon 30th – Fri 3rd November Book Fair

NOVEMBER

Thu 2nd – Fri 3rd Year 4 & 5 Zoo Snooze
Thu 2nd T1 2024 Reception students Transition Visit 8.45-10.30am
Thu 9th T1 2024 Reception students Transition Visit 8.45-11.40am
Thu 16th T1 2024 Reception students Transition Visit 8.45am-3.00pm
Fri 24th Colour Explosion Fun Run 5.00pm

Parish Weekend Mass – for mass times, visit:

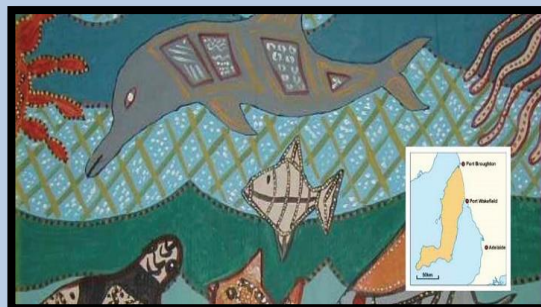
coppercoast@ppcatholic.org

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta

Sacred Heart, Kadina

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wallaroo

St Margaret's, Port Broughton



RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



TENNIS LESSONS

Thanks to Lisa Caffyn for organising tennis coaching lessons with Sam Clayson through the School Sports funding programme. We have had Sam coaching before and he has been guest speaker for the opening of our Sports Day, this is a great opportunity for the students again.

Following is our timetable for Week 1, 2, 3 and 4:

Monday (school courts): 9.00 Rec Parker; 9.40 Rec Hanson; 10.20 1 Bacher

Wednesday (town courts – transport by school bus): 9.00 2/3 Wehr; 10.00 2/3 Norton; 11.30 3 / 4 Kotz; 12.15 4 / 5 Ryan

YEAR 7-9 CANBERRA TRIP

In Week 2, the much awaited and planned for, first 7-9 Canberra Trip will take place. We have an amazing staff to student supervision ratio! Three students Lachlan, Blake and Ashton attending with Lisa Caffyn, Hannah and Michelle!

We fly out from Adelaide to Canberra very early on Monday, 23rd October and fly back in on Thursday, 26th October; and back to school on Friday. Some of the sites we visit will be Parliament House, National War Memorial and National Sports Institute. We have a very busy itinerary to look forward to

The Year 6 students will attend school as usual during this time. Supervision will be a mix of lessons with Marcus, a curriculum-related excursion to Adelaide with Marcus and Sue on Monday and Thursday the Year 6 students will assist in primary classrooms and continue with their own set work.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Congratulations to Bernie and Michele for preparation of the students for the Catholic Schools Music Festival: Adelaide, Madeline, Charlize, Nevayah, Zarah, Amaya. The choir performed at the Festival Theatre in Week 10 of last term, following three terms of dedicated training and preparation. What an amazing experience for these students to sing in a mass choir with hundreds of other students. Adelaide was also chosen to sing the National Anthem at the opening of the evening. It is an amazing event to be a part of.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

OSHC THANK YOU

A big thank you to our OSHC staff: educators - Lisa, Maddi, Tamika, Jayden, Mackenzie and Amy; and our bus driver Paul, who worked over the holidays providing care and fun for our students.

We continue to look for casual on-call OSHC educators (including Qualified), so if you know of anyone who may be interested, please encourage them to contact our school.

PLANNING FOR 2024

Our planning and preparation is well underway for 2024.

I continue to enjoy enrolment meetings and tours of the school for families and children commencing with us. Students commencing with us in Reception 2024 will have their transition visits on Thursdays of Weeks 3, 4, 5 and 6. We are really excited about welcoming these children and their families.

Enrolment enquiries are most welcome for other year levels as well.

We are employing staff and working out class structures and student placements for next year.

Please use the slip in this Newsletter to inform us if your child/children will not be attending SMMS next year. Alternatively, send a confidential email to michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au

When we are not informed of students leaving, this greatly impacts on planning.

TERM 4 DATE CLAIMERS

Friday, 27th October: World Teacher's Day

Thursday 9th November: Athletics Carnival Adelaide

Friday, 10th November, 9.00am: 3 / 4 Kotz Assembly; School Sports SA Disability Regional event

Wednesday, 15th November: Year 6-9 Limitless Market Day

Week 6: R-5 Water Safety lessons (at Wallaroo Sailing Club beach)

Wednesday, 6th, Thursday, 7th and Friday, 8th November: Year 6 Aquatics Camp at Port Vincent

Wednesday, 13th December: End of Year Thanksgiving Mass (including Year 6 & 9 Graduation)

Thursday, 14th November: Last day for students

Friday, 15th December: Pupil Free Day

CONDOLENCES

We express our deepest condolences to Taya Dennis and family on the passing of Taya's father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Taya, Michael, Madeline, Isabella and Isaac.

QKR APP FOR LUNCH ORDERS

Friday Lunch orders - please continue to use the P & F Qkr app for student lunch orders. The school Qkr app is not quite up and running as yet. P & F Friday Lunches available as of this Friday. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers.



Blessings for the week and term ahead.

Ms Michelle Miller
PRINCIPAL

2024 ENROLMENT

We are planning now for our finances, staffing and enrolments for our 2024 school year.

To assist with our forward planning it is very helpful to know if your child/children will be leaving us at the end of this school year. If we are not informed, this can impact significantly on class structures and student placement.

Please indicate if it is your intention for your child/children to be leaving our school at the end of 2023.

RETURN SLIP

My child/children: _____

WILL NOT be attending St Mary MacKillop School in 2024.

Parent name: _____ Signature: _____

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK FAIR – HATS OFF TO READING!



The Book Fair will commence Week 3, Monday, 30th October to Friday, 3rd November and will be held in the atrium area near the Front Office.

Traditionally, Monday is viewing only with students having a chance to look at the books and complete a “wish list” that they then take home for discussion. Purchases are then able to be made in the mornings before 9.00am on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If any parents or friends would like to assist with the Book Fair, please let me know.

This year with the theme being “Hats off to Reading” we will be holding a “Most Creative Hat” competition with winners from each year level receiving a \$10 voucher to spend at the Book Fair. All entries need to be brought to school by Monday, 30th October, so they can be judged - the winners will be announced on Wednesday, 1st November.

All purchases benefit the school so join in the fun and we hope to see you there!

Scholastic Book Club catalogue – Issue 7

Included with this week’s newsletter is Issue 7 of the Scholastic Book Club Catalogue. Most of these books will likely be featured at the Book Fair. If you are unable to come, please feel free to order from the catalogue as per normal - this will be the last catalogue for this year.

Orders need to be returned with payment by Friday, 27th October.

Mrs Sharon Steer
LIBRIRIAN

FROM THE REC

As we begin a new term, let us reflect on making ourselves ready, attentive and available to use our gifts during Term 4. Let us be thankful for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy we have to put these gifts to good use. May all that we are today, all that we try to do today, may all our encounters, reflections, even the frustrations and failings, all be placed in God's hands.

May the work we do and the way we do it, bring new hope, new life, and courage to all we come in contact with this term.

NATIONAL CARERS WEEK – 15th – 21st OCTOBER



National Carers Week will run from Sunday, 15th October to Saturday, 21st October. It is a time to recognise, celebrate and raise awareness about the 2.65 million Australians who provide care and support to a family member or friend. That is more than one in ten Australians are carers. They make an enormous contribution to our community.



The theme, 'Millions of Reasons to Care', aims to broaden the awareness of the 2.65 million Australians caring for their family members and friends. Carers represent a diverse range of cultures, ages, experiences and responsibilities, but all of them balance of caring responsibilities with other responsibilities like work, study and their physical and mental health.

To those people in our school community who are carers, we thank you for everything you do, especially those 'behind the scenes' tasks. You truly are amazing, and we thank you for all you do.



CATHOLIC MISSION MONTH AND COIN DRIVE – WEDNESDAY, 25th OCTOBER



October is known as Catholic Mission Month and it is a time for us to fundraise for Catholic Missions. We will be holding a coin drive next Wednesday, 25th October. We will have the words Catholic Mission Month written on the court and hopefully we can cover the



letters with coins galore. The money raised will help people in Timor-Leste.

The students will watch this video about Timor-Leste. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZePy8Kd5Hx8>

Some key messages in this video include:

- * We can make a difference, doing what God wants us to do.
- * We can help people in Timor Leste create a positive change with health and education.

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH OF THE COPPER COAST SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Included with today's newsletter, is a letter from our Parish Priest, Fr Chris Kowalczyk SDS inviting school families to join the St Mary MacKillop Parish of the Copper Coast 2024 Sacramental Programme.

This programme prepares children to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation. This programme is based on the guidelines of the Port Pirie Diocese, and is to take place primarily in the family.



FROM THE REC

CHILDREN'S WEEK – 21st OCTOBER – 29th OCTOBER



In 1989, world leaders made a historic commitment to the world's children by adopting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – an international agreement on childhood.

The theme this year is **Children have the right to relax, play and take part in activities they enjoy**. Based on UNCRC Article 31: All children have a right to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child, and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.



Children's Week celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood. It is also a time for children to demonstrate their talents, skills, and abilities.

Unfortunately, there are millions of children around the world who are denied the necessities of a happy childhood. Particularly at this time, the children caught up in conflict in Israel/Palestine.

Let us pray to the Lord Jesus Christ, that stability and safety can be realised for the thousands of refugees and displaced people caught up in the Israeli – Palestinian conflict. Send your Holy Spirit to comfort children who experience trauma and develop disabilities as a result of the violence. We pray for peace in the area and restoration of family members who are suffering.

BRAIN BREAK BOPS PILOT:



Last term, I was asked to speak in Melbourne about using the ELLA (Early Learning Languages Australia) apps. While there, I was asked whether we would like our school to be part of the Brain Break Bops Pilot project. We are one of the 11 educational settings (preschools, kindergartens and schools) that are taking part in this Pilot Program. Yes, only 11 educational settings are taking part in this in all of Australia.

Characters Kai, Finn, Helipet, Nev and Min teach the students some Interoception and Self-regulation activities. The children are familiar with the characters from the ELLA apps.

The Vacation Care staff have used the Brain Break Bops (BBBs) during the holidays and the students have enjoyed them. They will be great Brain Break Bops leaders to show their classmates the benefits of using the BBBs.



This project is part of the ESA (Education Services Australia) student wellbeing hub. If you'd like more information on interoception, the Student Wellbeing Hub link is <https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/educators/topics/interoception-and-self-regulation>

As this is a pilot project, I look forward to hearing from the students and teachers their thoughts. If your child shares with you how they feel when using BBBs, please let me know as I will be able to use these reflections when I meet with ESA at the end of the term.

*Wishing you a week filled with positive energy, productivity, and success.
Stay blessed and make the most of every moment!*

Mrs Francesca Tully
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Year 6-9 students visited the YP Fields Days on Thursday, 28th September. First stop was our St Mary MacKillop School site. Students split into groups and visited lots of exhibits.

Some of their favourite things were: patting snakes, looking at car engines, getting to shoot air guns, VR experiences, collecting free giveaways, sheep dog trials, watching the CFS 'car rescue demo', holding baby chickens, patting alpacas, walking through the Royal Flying Doctor's plane, visiting the basketball court and enjoying ice creams and the other food available.

The students loved the experience and look forward to visiting again in 2 years.



OSHC & VACATION CARE

CANCELLATIONS

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

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

Any bookings for **Vacation Care** during the school holidays must be cancelled in advance **a minimum of fourteen days** during business hours.

Please phone or message the OSHC phone on 0437659137 for any bookings or cancellations. This helps immensely with knowing where students need to be and with planning staff.

Miss Lisa Cooper
OSHC DIRECTOR

COLOUR EXPLOSION FUN RUN



Reminder the St Mary MacKillop School Colour Explosion Fun Run will be held on a Friday, 24th November from 5.00pm. Students have received a sponsorship book with instructions on setting up their cybersafe, online fundraising profile at www.australianfundraising.com.au. This is an entirely online fundraiser; all cash donations must be converted to online donations to redeem your prizes.

The event is 6 weeks away so please remember to source a plain white t-shirt to wear at the event. If your child would like to take part but does not want to be sprayed with colour, ensure they wear a yellow shirt. This will alert our volunteers who will ensure your child is approached before applying the nontoxic coloured powder.

We are seeking volunteers to help on the day – please complete the form included with today's newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you there.

PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Zeb – Year 1	23 rd October
Martina – Reception MP	23 rd October
Noah – Year 2/3W	27 th October
Ruby – Year 2/3W	28 th October
Eva – Year 2/3W	30 th October





NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. Year 4/5 Curriculum letter and camp forms
2. Colour Run – Volunteer Expression of Interest note
3. Scholastic Book Club catalogue
4. Sacramental Programme letter

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.



Catholic School Parents SA is pleased to present:

A window into the adolescent brain

presented by Mark Le Messurier

Wednesday October 25 2023
6pm - 8pm (in person or online)

St Thomas School & Preschool
10 Rushton Street, Goodwood

This Parent Engagement Evening is hosted by Catholic School Parents SA.

The ages between 11 to 20 years are loosely considered adolescence. It is a critical time for human development and is best-known as a period of change – physically, emotionally, sexually and neurologically. Yet, adolescent behaviour can be a puzzle to many – parents included.

So, what is a parent to do...? Firstly, understand what's really happening within your teenager during this vulnerable time. Change gears and shift your parenting to embrace this new dimension.

Mark will also present some fast, practical and helpful ideas for you to work with.

Mark Le Messurier is a teacher, counsellor, author and public speaker. He works in private practice as a mentor to children and adolescents, and as a coach to parents.

Register via the [CESA Registration Centre](#) or go to the [Events page](#) on the CSPA Website.

cspsa.catholic.edu.au



LITTLE ATH'S YORKE PENINSULA ACADEMY 2023

DATE: Sunday 12 November 2023
TIME: 10:00am to 4:00pm
PRICE: \$40.00 per athlete
WHERE: Kadina Memorial School, Senior Oval - 5 Doswell Terrace, Kadina (Northern Yorke Peninsula LAC)
AGE GROUP: U6 to U17

Whether you are a seasoned athlete or just starting your athletics journey, this academy will help improve your throwing, jumping and running techniques in an atmosphere that fosters fun and friendship.

Join now to see what Little Athletics has to offer!

What to Expect:

Expert Coaching: Learn from experienced coaches who will help you take your athletics skills to the next level.

Skill Workshops: Sharpen your skills in a practical setting in various athletic disciplines.

Fun and Games: Enjoy a day filled with exciting challenges and competitions.



littleathleticssa.com.au | office@salaa.org.au | 08 8352 8133

