



St Mary MacKillop School

NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday, 29th November, 2023 (Term 4, Week 7)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of SMMS,

The message from the scripture readings this weekend at Mass, is to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus:

Matthew 24: 42 & 44

24: 42 Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

24:44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.



SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

We observed the **Second Week of Advent** at our Monday morning Assembly and in classrooms this week. Two purple candles were lit, representing Hope (the first candle) and Peace (the second candle). Advent is the time of hope and promise of wonderful things to come. It is the preparation time for the welcoming of God into the world in the human form of a tiny baby, Jesus. We focus on intention and action to bring joy, peace, kindness and generosity of spirit as gifts to others.

IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER

- Fri 1st Subway orders due at school
Rec MP & Year 4/5 excursion
- Mon 4th Year 2/3W excursion
- Wed 6th – Fri 9th Year 6 Camp
- Thu 7th Reception & Year 1 Splash Town excursion
- Fri 8th SUBWAY Lunches
- Sun 10th Year 6 & 9 Graduation Dinner 6.00pm
- Wed 13th End of Year Thanksgiving Mass 11.45am
Semester 2 Reports sent home
- Thu 14th Year 4/5 excursion
Term 4 concludes 3.00pm
- Fri 15th PUPIL FREE DAY – OSHC AVAILABLE

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



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

WATER SAFETY LESSONS

Thank you to our wonderful parents and staff who assisted with preparations for water safety lessons last week, returning consent forms and making sure children had their swimming gear each day. Thank you to our teachers, ESOs and Jo Marsh and her team of swimming instructors for their supervision and teaching. The students did a great job with their positive attitude and giving activities a really good go despite the cool weather.

We hope the lessons are very valuable for the students in keeping them as safe as possible in the water.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HOT SHOTS TENNIS FINALISTS

Congratulations to our Hot Shots Tennis Team finalists who travelled to Adelaide on Monday and played on the SA Tennis clay courts. What a wonderful experience. All players played well, displaying good sportsmanship and resilience in hot conditions. We are proud of the team for winning their way into the finals.

Thank you to Laura Kotz and Michael Dennis who transported, supervised and supported the team.

Congratulations to: Connor D, Lachlan D, Zara C, Eloise C, Maddy D, Jack R, Victoria M, Oliver B, Payton G and Trae W.



RECEPTION TRANSITION

Thank you to all staff and families involved in ensuring that Reception transition went well. It's a big four weeks for the new children as well as our existing children as the change impacts them and our staff. Everyone has done a beautiful job of welcoming the new children and their families to our school. We look forward to welcoming our Receptions in 2024.

COLOUR RUN

A big thank you to all families and staff who attended and supported the P & F Colour Run on Friday evening. It's an important way to build community and relationships within our school community, as well as raising some very much appreciated funds to be used for purchasing new playground equipment. It was a lot of work but also a lot of fun.

A big thank you to Emily Donnell who arranged the majority of the event planning, progress reports and preparations and the final event together; and to our P & F for their work in planning, setting up and packing up.

The company we held the fundraiser through take 40% of the profits for all of the coordinating, supplying the slime/paints, prizes. The students raised just over \$7,900 clear profit, which is amazing for a fundraiser.

Thanks to staff who helped promote the Colour Run fundraising by volunteering to be slimed in the lead up to Friday: Jody, Marcus and Hannah; and to Jane for the skits with students to promote the event.

Thank you to our caterers, the community food and drink vans who came along and provided us with yummy food and treats; they had a worthwhile evening.

It all added to an amazing amount of fun in the lead up and on Friday evening!

SCHOOL FEES

School fees for 2024 will remain the same as this year. The 2024 School Fee schedule was included with the Week 5 newsletter. Please take the time to read the schedule as it outlines the fees for R-6 and 7-9 students; Bus Levy and other charges; payment plan options; information on our Book & Uniform Collection Days in January 2024; and a Payment Plan Agreement Form which **MUST BE completed by ALL families** and returned to us by the end of term.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Sara and Corey Marks on the birth of their son Morgan Lionel Marks, a baby brother for Henley and Farlie.



VINNIES STORE KADINA

The St Vincent de Paul Society do great things for people in need in our local and wider community. We know them fondly as Vinnies and enjoy a close relationship with our local Vinnies team.

The Vinnies charity store building in Kadina had been closed for quite a while and repairs were carried out to the building. The store has re-opened and this afternoon there was a special celebration of the re-opening of the store. Our school was represented at the re-opening by staff: Michelle, Francesca and Bernie and members of our UP Choir: Amaya, Madeline, Adelaide, Zara, Charlize and Nevayah. The choir students sang two songs while the building was being blessed by Bishop Karol.

We wish our Vinnies friends all the best and thank them for their wonderful work and service to our community.

MOONTA CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We will be entering a float in the Moonta Christmas Pageant which will be held Sunday, 17th December (afternoon). All students interested in participating in our float are asked to return the consent slip in the Newsletter or parents can let class teachers know via Seesaw.

We will use the 12-seater bus decorated for our float.

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MOONTA CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – SUNDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 2023 ST MARY MACKILLOP SCHOOL FLOAT - RETURN SLIP

My child/children would like to participate in the St Mary MacKillop School, Moonta Christmas Pageant Float:

Name/s:.....

Parent Name and Signature:.....

.....

REPORTS TIMELINE

Teachers are currently writing Semester 2 reports, a wonderful summary of your child's learning, development and achievements. The reports will be sent home on Wednesday of Week 9 (13th December). Included with the report will be notification of your child's class placement for 2024.

END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING MASS

Our End Of Year Thanksgiving Mass will be held on Wednesday, 13th December at 11.45am in the Star Of The Sea Church. At the Mass we give thanks for our year. We have a graduation ceremony for our Year 6 students celebrating the end of their primary schooling and Year 9 student celebrating the end of middle school and schooling with us. We will also present some student and community awards.

Everyone is invited to join us for this important celebration.

END OF TERM 4, 2023

A reminder that Term 4 concludes for our students on Thursday, 14th December.

Friday 15th December will be a Pupil Free day for staff preparation and planning for 2024. OSHC will be open on this day.

Blessings for the week ahead.

Ms Michelle Miller
PRINCIPAL

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Last Sunday the Church celebrated the Feast of Christ the King. Christ is not only a King, but He is also a shepherd. He takes care of us and looks for us when we are lost. He has always been the King of everyone, and He will remain the King of all.

The Children's Gospel of Matthew 25: 31 – 46, explains that Jesus challenges us to look out for people who need our kindness, our help and our friendship. Jesus is in every sick person, every lonely person, and every sad person. If we help someone in need in any way, we are helping Jesus.



Upon reflection:

- When we care for others, it will be like we are caring for Jesus.
- Jesus is a King who loves us and who takes care of us.
- Jesus wants us to love others, in the same way that he loves us.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Sunday marks the First Sunday of Advent. As we start Advent, Mark's Gospel (13: 33-37) tells us to be ready to welcome Jesus. It is like when a man goes away leaving his servants in charge. The doorkeeper needs to stay awake to welcome the master when he comes back. Jesus wants us to be ready to welcome him – and he is coming soon.

Perhaps for us the best image of Advent is that of pregnancy, which after all was the initial experience of Mary and Joseph as it is described in the Gospel stories. That pregnancy also was a time of waiting, no doubt anxious given the high mortality rate of children and the risks of childbirth, not to mention the trek described in Luke's Gospel to a crowded town of Bethlehem. The trek from Nazareth to Bethlehem was not a short journey, it was 145km. It is roughly the same distance from Kadina to Adelaide. Imagine walking this distance, 9 months pregnant and along a bumpy, hilly road.



Mary's pregnancy, as is the first pregnancy of any woman, was a time of preparation for a new life which brought changing patterns of relationships and adjustment to a new and all-demanding arrival in the family.

During Advent, we are invited to make Christ welcome in our homes, communities, and hearts. As we prepare for Christmas, we remember that Jesus was born into poverty. Part of our response as Christians, is to show solidarity to those less fortunate in our community.

The donations are already showing that we can spread joy and hope this Christmas season. Thank

you to those who have already donated. A list of what each year group is allocated to bring in has made buying these groceries easier. Please keep the donations coming in.



Reception	Year 1	Year 2 and Year 3	Year 4 and 5	Years 6 – 9
Canned Goods	Desserts	Snacks	Drinks	Essentials
Tinned Fruit	Christmas Puddings	Sweet Biscuits	Long-life Milk	Cereal
Tinned ham (not SPAM)	Christmas Cake	Savoury Biscuits	Long-life juice/pop tops	Spreads
Tuna	Jelly	Chips	Cordial	Pancake Mix
Tinned Veggies	Custard	Lollies	Milo/Tea/Coffee	Rice
	Cake Mix	Nuts	Soft drinks	Pasta
	Slices			Pasta Sauce
	Fruit Mince Pies			

NATIVITY SCENE DONATION

There is something special about Nativity scenes. The Nativity scene that is in the Sacred Space area has been generously donated by Lisa Caffyn and her family.

The Joseph statue measures 25cm, so they are a good height. It is a beautiful representation of the Birth of Jesus.

Thank you very much, Lisa and family for this Nativity scene.



END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING MASS AND GRADUATION CEREMONY



Please join us for a memorable End of Year Thanksgiving Mass and Graduation Ceremony, filled with joy as we celebrate our year together and the important milestone of graduation for our Year 6 and 9 students. Our Mass will be held at The Star of the Sea Church, Wallaroo on Wednesday, 13th December at 11:45am.



PARISH CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS

At our Christmas Eve mass, Fr Chris is inviting students to join our parish children to perform the Nativity story according to Luke's Gospel. We are after some angels and shepherds. 2 of the angels have speaking roles and the shepherds will be acting only – no speaking.

If you are interested in your child joining the parish children at our Christmas Mass, please let me know as soon as possible.



PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Mass times for our Parish are:

24th December, Christmas Vigil

Wallaroo 6:00pm

Kadina 8:00pm

Port Broughton 6:00pm

25th December, Christmas Day

Moonta 8:30am

Kadina 10:30am

This Christmas, we, as a school community, are doing as St Mary MacKillop once said *"Find happiness in making others happy."*

Mrs Francesca Tully

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

P & F COLOUR EXPLOSION FUN RUN



We couldn't have done it without you! Thank you to all the participants for making our Colour Explosion School Run 4 Fun a huge success.

What an amazing effort, together we raised a profit of \$7900. This money will go towards upgrading our outdoor play spaces.

A BIG thank you to all our wonderful Parents and Friends for coordinating the event and all volunteers who assisted with setup, marshalling and pack up. It was great to have so many hands to help out on the night.

Thank you to the Blue Light Disco team for the entertainment and the food vans - Chunky Boys, Rockn Soft Serve and YP Donuts for your service.

Your prizes are on their way, so make sure you keep an eye out. To all Fundraising MonSTARS, congratulations and you will be receiving a pack of Monty glitter gel pens, well done!

Thank you again for your support and generosity! You made it truly unforgettable!





SUBWAY LUNCHES – FRIDAY, 8TH DECEMBER (WEEK 8)

Envelopes were included with the Week 6 mini-newsletter. Orders are to be placed no later than Friday, 1st December.

HOT SHOTS TENNIS CARNIVAL

On Monday morning Jack R, Connor, Eloise, Oliver, Payton, Lachlan, Zara, Madeline, Victoria and Trae went on a trip to Adelaide with teachers, Miss Kotz and Mr Dennis for the Hot Shots State Carnival. On the way to the courts, the bus was filled with excited and nervous kids.

The carnival was at the Tennis SA Clay Courts which were cool as we have only played on concrete courts. Once we got there, we met the hosts of the carnival and they explained how to play. We went into doubles, Jack and Zara, Oliver and Victoria, Eloise and Trae, Connor and Lachy, and Madeline and Payton. There were about nine rounds in total. We got into top 10 finals out of 15 schools and came eighth overall. On the way back we stopped at Dublin for a congratulatory treat.

We are thankful for the opportunity to go play tennis on a school day and we thank the teachers that helped organize the day.

By Eloise and Connor



OSHC & VACATION CARE

DECEMBER/JANUARY VACATION CARE

Please see the dates we are open and closed over the December and January School Holidays.

Open 18th – 22nd December, 2023

Closed 26th December, 2023 - 12th January, 2024

Open 15th - 19th January, 2024

Open 22nd - 25th January, 2024 (Closed Friday, 26th January, Public Holiday)

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.

Lisa Cooper

OSHC Director - 0437 659 137

VACATION CARE- DECEMBER/JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS










MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 2023	TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023	WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2023	THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER 2023	FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER 2023
WET N WILD Water fun day at school. Please bring: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Bathers➤ Towel➤ Sun smart clothing➤ Change of clothes➤ Water guns (optional) 	Movie at Blyth Cinema  Depart: 9am Approx arrival: 3pm Extra Cost \$13	CHRISTMAS COOKING & CRAFTS -Paint your own biscuits pack to take home -Reindeer biscuits  Christmas Crafts -Reindeer food -salt dough ornaments -Painting Extra Cost \$12	<u>Gingerbread House Decorating</u>  Build and design your own gingerbread house to take home. Decorate Gingerbread Men to enjoy for afternoon snack.	Christmas Fun! Secret Santa Christmas Crafts CHRISTMAS LUNCH Roast chicken & veggies with gravy Christmas movie & popcorn afternoon  "Come dressed Christmassy"

Merry Christmas to our OSHC and Vacation Care families

VACATION CARE SERVICE CLOSED
26th DECEMBER 2023 – 12th JANUARY 2024



VACATION CARE- DECEMBER/JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024	TUESDAY 16 JANUARY 2024	WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY 2024	THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024	FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 2024
WELCOME BACK PARTY! Shared party afternoon tea Face painting Party games 	WET N WILD at OSHC Please bring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bathers ➤ Towel ➤ Sun smart clothing ➤ Change of clothes ➤ Water guns (optional) 	Tumble Clinic AT Kadina Gym  Tumble clinics teach floor skills such as handstands, rolls, cartwheels, and more advanced skills Extra Cost \$10	Port Pirie Aquatic Centre <u>Depart: 8:30</u>  Extra Cost \$5	FriYAY! Bring along your electronics Water balloon games (bring a towel) 
MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2024	TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2024	WEDNESDAY 24 JANUARY 2024	THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2024	FRIDAY 26 JANUARY 2024
Movie at Blyth Cinema  Depart: 9am Approx arrival: 3pm Extra Cost \$13	SMURF'S DAY  Come along to a fun filled blue day being a Smurf. Come dressed in blue, like a Smurf	Silent Disco  The children requested we have another Silent Disco! Lots of dancing and fun games listening to music. Extra Cost \$12	Australia Day Celebrations Sausage sizzle lunch Zinc sunscreen fun Lamingtons and pavlova afternoon tea Australian themed crafts 	Australia Day Public Holiday

OSHC PUPIL FREE DAY

Friday, 15th December, 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, 1st December**, if your child/ren will be attending.

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OSHC BOOKING FORM – PUPIL FREE DAY – FRIDAY, 15th DECEMBER

Return by **Friday, 1st December**

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.

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2023 SCHOOL MAGAZINE



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Matilda – Year 2/3W	30 th November
Haliah – Year 4/5	1 st December
Ashton – Middle School	8 th December
Addyson – Year 1	9 th December
Tyler – Year 2/3N	11 th December
Lachlan – Year 4/5	12 th December



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. Water Safety certificates (if applicable)
2. Year 4/5 excursion note (if applicable)

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.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING – SWIM AND SURVIVE

It's that time of year again when Holiday Swim Enrolments are running. Less than a month to go for the annual Royal Life Saving South Australia Holiday Swim program held at Wallaroo Sailing Club Beach. The Holiday Swim program runs the first week after school finishes and before Christmas, 18th-22nd December.

This will be my third year running this fantastic program offered to children aged four years old to primary school (based on ability).

As of this year, parents who have enrolled their children in previous years may not have noticed that the levels have changed to previous years. For more clarification, I have attached an age guideline sheet to help you decide what level is best suited for your child.

Please note I can only run level 'Courage' to 'level 7'. No 'Wonder' programs will be running as the children are too small for open water and nothing higher from 'level 7' upwards due to lack of facilities to run higher levels.

I have been running this program for a few years now and would love as many numbers as possible to add higher levels, hopefully in the near future.

If you need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me on the mobile number attached to the flyer or contact Royal Life Saving SA directly....

Below is the link for the Wallaroo Beach enrolment for the Holiday Swim Program.

https://e.mybookingmanager.com/attendee_register_input_B.asp?hdnPar=0%5E%5E0&DAEC=E71822598209881



ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Swim and SURVIVE

ENROL TODAY!

HOLIDAY SWIM

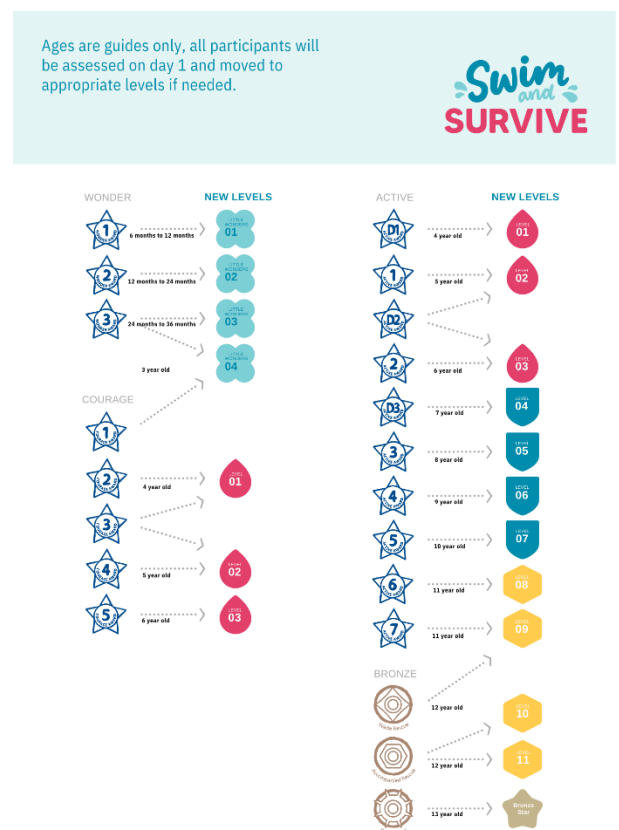
DATE: 18th - 22nd December 2023

LOCATION: Wallaroo Sailing Club Beach

CONTACT: Chloe Paddick (Instructor in-charge)
Ph: 0477150522

FOR INFORMATION :
08 8210 4500
www.holidayswim.com.au
holidayswim@royallifesavingsa.com.au

Holiday Swim





WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

Do you want to be part of an incredible opportunity?? On Friday, December 1st @ 12.00pm Tarnasey Farm is teaming up with Yorke Peninsula Tourism for a special photo shoot, and we want YOU, our fantastic local families, to be part of it!

Curious or excited? Give us a call to express your interest and learn more! We'll share all the exciting details and discuss the few guidelines we need to follow. Help us capture the magic of Tarnasey Farm!!!

 **0432 268 004**