



# St Mary MacKillop School NEWSLETTER

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**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (Term 2, Week 5)**

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of SMMS,

**LITURGICAL TIME OF EASTER SEASON  
VINNIE'S WINTER APPEAL**

**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK**



The theme for 2025 National Reconciliation Week throughout Australia is "Bridging Now to Next" and reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future.

*Bridging Now to Next* calls on all Australians to step forward together, to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.

*Art work by Kalkadoon woman, Bree Buttenshaw, of native plants that regenerate after fire, reflecting resilience and thriving in adversity.*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**TUESDAYS** - Mini Macs Playgroup 9am

### MAY

Tue 27<sup>th</sup> – Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

Thu 29<sup>th</sup> Yr 7 & 8 Basketball Carnival

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Wear House top and sport uniform

House Games afternoon

Friday Lunches

### JUNE

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tue 10<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting 7.00pm

**JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – OSHC CLOSED**

**Parish Weekend Mass – for Mass times, visit:**

[coppercoast@ppcatholic.org](mailto:coppercoast@ppcatholic.org)

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta

Sacred Heart, Kadina

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wallaroo - 6pm Saturday

St Margaret's, Port Broughton

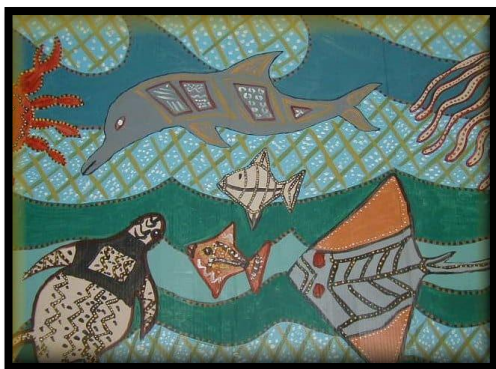


*In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge Nharangga Country and Australia's First Peoples as traditional custodians of this land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.*

## RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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*Acknowledgement of Country  
We are on Nharangga country  
This is their country  
This is their home  
We honour their heritage and future.*

*Art work from – Nharangga country*

The dates for National Reconciliation Week remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.

### **26<sup>th</sup> May – Sorry Day**

National Sorry Day or the National Day of Healing is an annual event held annually in Australia on 26 May commemorating the Stolen Generations. It is part of the ongoing efforts towards reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

### **27<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June – National Reconciliation Week**

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> June – Mabo Day**

Mabo Day commemorates Mer Island man Eddie Koiki Mabo and his successful efforts to overturn the legal fiction of terra nullius, or 'land belonging to no-one'.

We have some significant Feast days or Solemnities, (special observances) in the Catholic Church coming up over the next few weeks:



### **THE VISITATION OF MARY - FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

The feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrates the visit of Mary, the Mother of God, with the child Jesus in her womb, to her cousin Elizabeth. The visit took place when Elizabeth was herself six months' pregnant with her own child who would be Saint John the Baptist.

### **THE ASCENSION – SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE**

The Feast of the Ascension in the Catholic Church is a solemnity commemorating the bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven on the fortieth day after Easter. It's a major feast day, ranking with Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas. The Ascension is celebrated as a completion of Jesus' earthly mission and the inauguration of his glorified reign.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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### P & F – FRIDAY LUNCHES

We welcome more volunteers to make sure we can offer Friday Lunches for students.

*I am interested but what does it involve?*

Our P & F and loyal volunteers raise approximately \$10,000 per year through the Friday lunches.

- Free lunch
- Bring along younger siblings
- Get to meet new people
- Your children will love having you volunteering at school

*What to expect:*

- Commit from 9am until 1.15pm
- You will be rostered on with someone who is experienced

*What does a morning at lunches look like?*

- A little bit of admin to start with: collect the lunch boxes collate the orders, stick the orders onto the lunch bags
- Take items out of the freezer
- Bag up cold items: drinks, ice creams
- Airfry the chicken nuggets; make hot dogs; add hot water to the ever popular noodles

### SEMESTER 2 REPORTS

Teachers are continuously working on assessment pieces and writing reports documenting student progress, the Semester 2 reports will be sent home on the last day of this term, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July. Reports cannot be collected earlier than dismissal time on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July. If students are not at school on this day, student reports may be collected at the start of Term 3 or on request can be mailed home to parents.

It is a requirement of Catholic Education South Australia that we use a student report writing programme called Marksbook, which sits within the platform of SEQTA. There is an introductory page for parents with the report. The reports for Reception students are required to be different to Years 1-9 reports, there are no grades allocated to subject areas in Reception reports.

Rest assured that while the report format may appear more minimal, all of the assessment and evidence of achievement gathered and collated by teachers is still behind the report. There is always the opportunity to request a parent/teacher interview following receipt of the report if more information and explanation is helpful.

There are options for alternative reports where a student has support and adjustments to their learning so that they are able to achieve to the best of their ability in their learning. This will be indicated on the student's report with the following headings:

- AAS: students accessing a different year level curriculum area
- AYL: students accelerated, assessed at an accelerated year level for a curriculum area
- HPC: students accessing highly personalised curriculum

### NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA

Every year we are required to record data for the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on students with a disability. Students who have a Personalised Plan For Learning (PPL) that documents adjustments made to enable them to access learning equitably will be included in our school data. Parents will have been notified if your child as a PPL.

### STUDENT PULSE SURVEYS

During Week 5 and 6 of each term, students participate in the Student Pulse Surveys. These surveys provide an opportunity for students to share their perspectives on a variety of questions relating to their wellbeing and learning. The results are used to improve our practices and supports for students.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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### POSITIONS VACANT

Beginning this week, the following teaching positions are being advertised:

- Year 7-9 teacher or teachers (commencing beginning or mid Term 3, 2025)
  - Reception teacher or teachers (commencing beginning Term 3).
  - Reception – Year 3 teacher or teachers (commencing beginning Term 3 or Term 4)
- Full-time and part-time options for all of the above positions will be considered.
- Acting Principal for Term 3 and 4 is currently being advertised within CESA.

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Emma Borlace, following a lengthy illness. Emma and her brother Matthew are past students of St Mary MacKillop School (Kalori when they were here).

Our deepest sympathy, from our school community, is expressed to the Borlace family.

### SAPSASA FOOTBALL

We will have several students out for the Sapsasa football carnival this week, Monday – Wednesday. We wish them a great few days of good sport and sportsmanship.

Good luck to: Connor, Trae, Bentley, Lachlan, Tate and Kye.

### NETBALL CARNIVAL - THANK YOU

Thank you to Carol Burford and Lucy Norton and the girl's netball team for their preparations and participation in the netball carnival on Friday. They won 5 games, lost 1 and drew 1. This is a result to be proud of. Eloise, Madi W and Isabelle C have made it through to the next selection round. We look forward to letting you know if any students go through to be selected for Sapsasa. Well done team!

### UPCOMING PUPIL-FREE DAYS

Term 3:

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September (NO OSHC available)

Term 4:

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December (OSHC available)

### OSHC CLOSED - REMINDER NOTICE

**OUR OSHC WILL BE CLOSED OVER THIS JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS DUE TO REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE BEING CARRIED OUT IN OUR FACILITY.**



Blessings for the week ahead,

*Ms Michelle Miller*  
PRINCIPAL



# CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND MISSION

## VINNIE'S WINTER APPEAL

Thank you to those families who have contributed to our Vinnie's Winter Appeal.

If you're unsure of what to donate, think what you would like to have on a cold winter's day.



Representatives from the Kadina Vinnie's will collect the donations on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, (Week 8).

## RECONCILIATION WEEK

This week, the Year 6 teacher, Fiona Piscioneri led the staff in a Reconciliation Week prayer. It was very powerful as we were reminded that we need to learn to listen deeply, speak truthfully and act justly to be able to move forward in the spirit of reconciliation, peace and love.



If you would like to take a quiet moment and enjoy Fiona's prayer, click on the following link <https://shorturl.at/KwJDk>

## FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

We are now coming to the end of the celebration of the Liturgical season of Easter. This Sunday marks the **Feast of the Ascension**, when Jesus returned to God, our Father, and left his Apostles to carry on the work of taking the Good News to all the world.

*The Ascension of Jesus: He'll be Back, Meanwhile, Follow the Written Instructions!*

This message is meant to remind children that they should joyfully proclaim the news of Christ. Jesus promised to return one day and assured us that He would send comfort and hope. Meanwhile, our earthly job is to share the love of God with one another.

After the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples several times. He did this in part to assert the validity of who He was as Messiah and risen Son of God. The appearances also gave encouragement and peace to His followers and reminded them of how to live out their lives. As we consider the Ascension, we can rejoice in the culmination of the earthly ministry of Jesus and get ready to share the news of the Gospel in our own earthly ministry.



Rejoicing in Hope,

*Mrs Francesca Tully*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

## NYP SAPSASA NETBALL CARNIVAL

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On Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Eloise C, Zara C, Amaya R, Scarlett R, Isabelle C, Natalie P, Miranda A, Madeline D, Madison W and Piper H, participated in the NYP SAPSASA Netball Carnival at CCSLC. Our first three games were against KMS 5, KMS 3 and MAS. Then we had a recess break. At 11:05, we played KMS 1, had a bye, then played HCC. At 12:20 we had a quick lunch break before heading to play our last two games against KMS 4 and WMPS. Overall, we played 7 games and won five of them. We tied one and lost one. Although we lost a game, we still defeated them in the first half.

For a celebration we had a well-deserved ice cream provided by Miss Norton. We thank Miss Norton and Mrs Burford for coaching, Lucy, from KMS, for umpiring, CCSLC for the use of the courts and canteen and all the parents that came out to support the team. It was a great day and we all tried our best!

**By Zara, Eloise and Isabelle, with the help of the rest of the team.**



## SAPSASA FOOTBALL CARNIVAL

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Congratulations to Bentley, Trae, Kye, Connor, Lachlan and Tate representing NYP at SAPSASA football this week. The weather wasn't the best for them but they all enjoyed the experience.



Back L-R: Trae, Kye, Connor    Front L-R: Lachlan, Tate, Bentley



## IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lots of great learning continues to happen in our Middle School, with students engaging in the core curriculum as well as real-life applications.

### A Culinary World Tour in Food Technology

Last term in Food Technology, students embarked on a delicious journey around the globe. Over several weeks, they "visited" countries including India, Italy, China, and Mexico, exploring each region's cuisine and food culture. Alongside this global adventure, they also delved into sustainable farming practices and brainstormed practical solutions to support a more sustainable future in agriculture.

This term, in Week 3, students completed their final assessment task. They were asked to choose a country and bring it to life through a food truck concept. This included designing a logo, selecting a colour scheme, creating a uniform, planning a culturally themed menu, and preparing one dish from that menu. A key part of the task involved researching a recipe from their chosen country and determining whether it could be realistically prepared within the lesson's time constraints.

The final presentations were a hit, drawing in several staff members who came to admire the displays and sample the delicious creations.

- **Sophia and Nevayah** (absent on the day) chose Japan and prepared stunning sushi.
- **Lucas and Ryder** took us to Jamaica with their flavourful jerk chicken served with rice.
- **Logan** impressed with his homemade sausage rolls, showcasing his culinary confidence.
- **Ally and Immy** brought a taste of America to the classroom with crumbed chicken and creamy mac and cheese.
- Unfortunately, **Charlotte and Charlize** were absent, so we missed out on their Italian-themed dishes.

All students should be incredibly proud of their efforts—not only in preparing their dishes but also in managing their time, presenting their food trucks, and cleaning up afterward. Their creativity and culinary skills were on full display, and they represented our middle school with excellence.

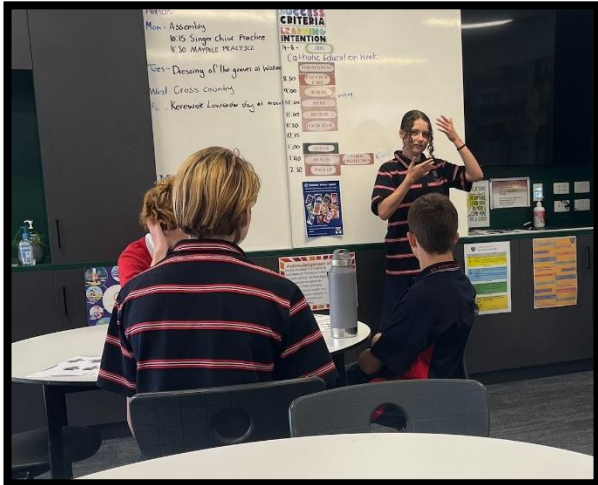


## IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Auslan

Students have continued the Auslan program, learning different words in sign language that they can use in their everyday lives. Students have worked individually to practice the language and have also been involved in group work where they engaged in conversation using Auslan. Some of the topics that students have covered in Auslan recently include:

- Colours
- Australian Landmarks
- Deaf History
- Days of the Week/ Months of the Year



### Exploring the Art of Dance

So far in dance, our students have been diving into the vibrant world of dance, exploring both the fundamental elements, such as space, time, dynamics, and relationships, and a variety of dance genres. From classical ballet and contemporary styles to hip-hop and traditional cultural dances, students are developing an appreciation for how movement can express emotion, tell stories, and reflect different cultures. Seeing their creativity and curiosity grow as they compare styles and experiment with choreography has been inspiring. Dance continues to be a powerful medium for expression, connection, and learning.



### Honouring the Dignity of Every Person

In Religion, our students have been reflecting deeply on the belief that every person is made in the image of God and that every life holds inherent dignity. Through discussion, prayer, and classroom activities, they are exploring how this foundational truth calls us to see others with compassion, respect, and justice, especially those who are most vulnerable. Students are learning that living out this belief means advocating for a world where every person is valued and has the opportunity to flourish.

It has been heartening to witness their growing empathy and sense of responsibility as they connect faith with action.

*Miss Lisa Caffyn & Mr Joshua Champion*

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS



# ICAS COMPETITONS

Included with today's newsletter for Year 2–9 students is a letter inviting parents to register their children for ICAS competitions. The competitions will be held here at school during August.

If you wish for your child to participate in ICAS this year, please go to the Parent Portal to register for your chosen subjects.

You can do this in one of two ways:

## 1. Direct login link – faster!

Use this link to log directly into the shop and start registering:

<https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/parent-payment/NRJ747>

## 2. Log in using the PPS code

Visit their shop and use our PPS code to log in:

Shop link: <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

PPS code: NRJ747

We encourage you to consider entering your child. Please contact me if you have any questions.

*Mrs Karen Westlake*

ICAS COORDINATOR

## Join the ICAS 2025 Academic Competition.

The fun and inspiring challenge for bright young minds.

We're proud to offer ICAS 2025 to our students—a national competition that challenges their thinking, motivates them to excel, and celebrates their academic skills.

### How ICAS helps our students succeed

- Develops critical thinking and problem solving through fun academic challenges
- Recognises academic achievement like we do in sport and the arts
- Provides insights that help educators and parents identify strengths and areas of growth.

### Who can participate in ICAS?

ICAS offers a comprehensive suite of subjects for Year 2 to 12 students.

### Dates and pricing

Each subject costs \$20.95 per student, except Writing which is \$24.95

 <b>Digital Technologies</b> 4 – 8 August	 <b>Science</b> 18 – 22 August
 <b>Writing</b> 4 – 8 August	 <b>Spelling Bee</b> 18 – 22 August
 <b>English</b> 11 – 15 August	 <b>Mathematics</b> 25 – 29 August



If your child is interested in taking part, speak with their teacher to find out how they can get involved.  
[icasassessments.com](https://shop.icasassessments.com)



**Janison Assessments.**



## MINI MACS PLAYGROUP

Our Mini Macs Playgroup meets every Tuesday at 9:00am in our hall. The group caters for children birth-5 years for a weekly play and a lovely catch-up for the families.

playgroup



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Meg – Reception H  
Arlo – Year 2/3W

28<sup>th</sup> May  
10<sup>th</sup> June



### NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. ICAS information (Year 2-9)

*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.*

## STORY DOGS

Thank you to our wonderful Story Dog volunteers Tania and Frankie, and Chelsea and Louie.

