

Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Term 2 Week 6

Friday, 9th June 2023

Reception to Year 6 Co-Educational Catholic Primary School

5 Portland Street, Penola SA 5277

Telephone: (08) 8737 2902 www.mmms.catholic.edu.au



in all things love

UPCOMING DATES

- June -

- 12 **STUDENT FREE DAY**
PUBLIC HOLIDAY - KING'S BIRTHDAY
- 13 Basketball Sessions
- 14 Lion's Mad Minute
- 16 Feast of the Sacred Heart (9:15am)
Playgroup (9:30am)
Year 5/6 Assembly (2:30pm)
- 19 Early Learning (8:45am)
World of Maths
SAPSASA Soccer Trials
- 21 SAPSASA Hockey
- 23 Playgroup (9:30am)
Year 4/5 Assembly (2:30pm)
- 24 Birth of St John the Baptist
- 26 Early Learning (8:45am)
SAPSASA Netball
- 30 Playgroup (9:30am)
Winter Warmers Day
Year R/1 Assembly (2:30pm)

- July -

- 3 Early Learning (8:45am)
Reports to go home
NAIDOC Week
- 7 Playgroup
Last Day of Term 2
- 25 First Day of Term 3
- 28 Playgroup
Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Class News

Year 4/5

Last week the 4/5 students embarked on their camp at the Grampians Retreat. Students participated in a range of various outdoor activities, including a scenic hike, archery lessons, a thrilling giant swing ride, and building their own huts. The students also enjoyed a heart-pumping ride on a flying fox and explored the beauty of the Grampians and challenged their navigation during a night walk. The camp provided a unique opportunity for the students to learn new skills while surrounded by nature, fostering their sense of adventure, teamwork, and independence. Overall, it was an unforgettable experience for all involved.



**RAISING HEARTS
AND MINDS**

in all things love

From the principal

Dear Friends and Families of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

We are already at Week 6 and officially over halfway through Term 2. It has been fantastic the learning that has taken place already this term and the focus on student led learning goals.

Year 4/5 Camp

Our Year 4/5 students had an incredible time on their 3 day, 2 night camp to the Grampians, immersing themselves in nature, embarking on thrilling adventures, and creating unforgettable memories. A enormous thank you to camp organisers; Sam and Amy and also to Jen, Justin and Bridgette for taking part in the camp and helping out.

School Values and Professional Learning

Recently staff have been looking at the Josephite values and which ones we see acted out in our school. They spoke about compassion, service, humility, courage and presence. During our staff Professional Learning days, we will unpack each of these values and how we are able to teach them to our students. This work will be facilitated by David Kelly from the Life Buoyancy Institute and will help to form our new Personal Responsibility and Wellbeing Policy.

We will also further engage in the Crossways curriculum where staff will have the opportunity to work with teachers from both Tenison Woods College and St Anthony's to design a unit of work, and a rich assessment task.

Thursday we are looking forward to engaging in the LEAP Levels training with St Anthony's staff in Millicent. This training will be facilitated by Chris Payne from CESA.

Gala Day

The Millicent Football Netball Gala Day was a wonderful success! The event showcased the amazing sportsmanship of all participating students. It was heartwarming to witness their enthusiasm, teamwork and positive attitude throughout the day. Well done to all! A special thank you to Rachel for her organization, Justin for coaching the footy, Jane and Ashlee for coaching the netball, Christie and Jane for scoring and for all of the support from all families. Also another big thank you to Cassie and Nicole for umpiring on the day.

Uniform

Recently it has come to my attention that there is a variety of combinations of uniform being worn.

Every Tuesday every child needs to wear their PE uniform. All classes have one other day when they wear their PE uniform. I encourage you to check your child's class notices to ensure that they are wearing it on the correct day.

Leggings are not part of the PE uniform. Blue tracksuit pants or blue PE shorts are to be worn and are able to be purchased from the front office or you are able to buy kids Brilliant Basic track pants in navy from Big W for \$8. The rugby jumper is only to be worn with the PE uniform and the knit jumper with the other uniform.

I have also noticed that some students are mixing the summer and winter uniform. It is now Winter Uniform time. No summer dress is to be worn. Both girls and boys may wear shorts as this is a year-round option.

If girls are wearing the pinafore or skirt they must wear navy or white socks or navy tights – not leggings.

Wearing the uniform is crucial for several reasons. It promotes a sense of unity and equality among students, fostering positive school culture. It also instills discipline, teaches respect for rules, and prepares students for the future. By following the uniform policy, students demonstrate their commitment to representing their school with pride and dignity.

Our policy is able to be viewed on the school website.

COMBINED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH-EAST

On Tuesday evening the combined school board meeting of St Anthony's, Tenison Woods College, and Mary MacKillop Memorial School brought together these Catholic schools in the South-East to discuss the future of Catholic education in the region. Led by Catholic Education South Australia School Performance Leader, Dave Edwards, and supported by Inclusion and Wellbeing consultant Viv Fleming, the meeting had a specific focus on fostering a commitment to inclusion for all students. This important gathering provided an opportunity for the school boards to share insights, collaborate and to explore ways to ensure that every student feels valued and support within the Catholic education system. By prioritizing inclusion, the schools are dedicated to creating nurturing and inclusive learning environments that embrace diversity and promote the holistic development of all students. We thank our hosts, St Anthony's Catholic Primary School Board for the delicious meal and their hospitality.

Wishing everyone a wonderful long weekend, whether you are going camping or staying home and enjoying some quiet family time, may it be a time of rest and relaxation.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday.

God bless,
Nicole

in all things love

Community News

Mission Statement

Spirited by our Founders, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods, our community is a place of welcome, inclusion and kindness as we live out the Josephite Motto, In All Things Love

Vision Statement

Children, educators, families and the parish work in partnership to advance each individuals love of life and to experience learning through curiosity, discernment and endeavour and support them as they, Learn to Flourish.

“Find happiness in making others happy” (St Mary of the Cross MacKillop)

Absentees

A reminder that if your child is absent from school, for any reason, it is important that this is communicated with the school. The Catholic Education system has advised all schools to follow up on unresolved absences with families. Your support and communication in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Text Absentee Number

When texting the Absentee Line to explain your child's absence from school please make sure you put both their name **and reason** so it can be recorded properly.

0459 799 596

Playgroup

Playgroup is held every Friday morning from 9.30 – 11. We have a new playgroup coordinator, Kathy Dempsey who is looking forward to meeting our families and any new families who would like to come along. All you need is yourself, your children and a gold coin donation. Come and enjoy the inviting learning environment where experiences are set up for you to engage in with your child.



Early Learning at MMMS

Early Learning takes place on a Monday with the option of a half or full day. Ashlee Fensom, a qualified educator in early years, plans new and exciting experiences from the Early Years Framework for all children aged 3 – 5. A full day begins at 8.45 with pick up at 3pm and only costs \$25. Half day is \$15, with pick up or drop off at 11.45 – 12 noon. Children need to bring a water bottle, morning and afternoon snack, lunch and a hat. Call the school today to secure your child's spot next week.



Community News

Counsellor's corner

Honesty is the best policy!

Instilling the value of honesty in children is an ongoing and sometimes tedious task. It takes time, a non-judgmental attitude and heaps of patience!

A few helpful tips when teaching young children about telling the truth:

Do not over-react. Keeping your cool helps the child in your care feel safe enough to tell the truth. If they can see that you are getting heightened, they are more likely to mirror this behavior and get on the defensive which leads to blame or lying.

Create a safe space where you can reflect on the moment of dishonesty. Children often feel shameful when they have been caught out being dishonest. By creating a calm space (or removing them from a busy/chaotic space) helps children to focus on what you are trying to teach them in that moment. In younger children it is best to deal with the issue as it arises. As children mature, they are able to reflect on their choices in a more productive way. A safe space, no matter what age, helps children to feel open about what they are feeling.

Model the appropriate response. Once the truth is out, the adult can model for the child how to rectify the falsehood, e.g. I am proud of you for telling the truth. I know it is not easy to always do that. Perhaps you could say sorry like this "I was feeling frustrated when I said those mean words. They were hurtful. I am really sorry. Your friendship is very special to me."

Focus on the truth, not the lie. By emphasizing the importance of honesty above what the child has actually lied about, helps that child to realize how highly honesty is valued. By discussing with our children WHY honesty is important, we help our children to internalize a sense of integrity.

Allow for a re-do. When you know that your child is telling a fib, explain to them that you think that they are not being truthful and give them a moment to think of how to tell the truth in the situation, e.g. "Hmm that doesn't sound like the truth, would you like a moment to have a think and then start over?" Younger kids might need this as a teachable moment.

By equipping the children in our care to be honest in all situations, we enable them to develop a strong sense of justice and integrity. Furthermore, as children learn from the adults in their lives that "Honesty is the best policy," they grow in confidence to deal with and process situations where they might have previously not had the social skills and tools to do so.

Dale Domleo
School Counsellor

Mid-Year Intake 2023

If your child turns 5 on or before the 31st October, they are able to start mid-year. If you are interested in your child starting mid-year, please contact the school as soon as possible. All Reception mid-year intakes are fee free.

New Enrolments for 2024

As planning begins for 2024 I strongly encourage all families considering Mary MacKillop Memorial School for their child's education in 2024 to contact the school today! You are able to book a tour with either the Principal, Nicole Coote or with our school captains, Sophie and Sidney.

For families already at MMMS, if you have a little one starting in 2024 Reception, please complete your enrolment form and return to school.



Community News

Sport Basketball Sessions

Next week we will begin basketball sessions for each class effectively run by Millicent and District Basketball Association. The program will run for three weeks.

Class teachers will post on Seesaw extra days to wear PE uniform.

SAPSASA Soccer

Trials for SAPSASA Soccer will be taking place soon. A form will be coming home after the long weekend.

Trial dates are:

Boys – Monday June 19th 3:30 – 4:30pm at McLaughlin Park Millicent

Girls – Tuesday June 13th 9:45 – 11am at Penola Primary School

For more information contact Rachel Manninen on:

rmanninen@mmms.catholic.edu.au

SAPSASA Football

Congratulations to Alex, Jimmy and Finn on a successful SAPSASA Football week

SAPSASA Cross Country

We wish Alex, Finn and Ben all the very best as they compete in Adelaide for Cross Country. Run fast, run strong!

SAPSASA Hockey

Congratulations to Chole for making the SAPSASA Hockey team that will compete in Adelaide in Week 8.

SAPSASA Netball

Congratulations to Sophie, Ellie and Lilly who have all made the netball team that will compete in Adelaide in Week 9. Wonderful achievements by all!



The graphic features a green and blue background with three circular images showing students and teachers in a classroom setting. The text reads: **Seesaw** PARENT INFORMATION SESSION, **Wednesday 21st June @ 5pm**, **YEAR 2/3 ROOM**. Below the text is a small logo for Mary MacKillop Penola and a line of text: "Information about how Seesaw is being used as a form of communication for each child's learning progress and as a form of communication for school administration purposes."

Catholic Identity

Catholic Identity

Our school constantly strives to be: A Christ centred community which challenges students to develop their unique gifts and talents through a supportive partnership of school, parents and parish. Christ, as we know, was an inspiring and courageous leader. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop was a passionate, faithful and committed leader. At Mary MacKillop Memorial School we display the qualities of leadership, where we flourish in our living and learning. We 'walk the walk' of trying to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and Mary as a Christ centred community.

Currently we are asking families to bring non-perishable food item for the St Vinnies Winter Appeal. This is an important appeal as we know that over the winter many families struggle, and it is through our generous donations that they are able to feel the warmth and love of God.

St. Vinnie's Winter Appeal

The start of our St Vinnies Winter Appeal at our school was a resounding success, thanks to the incredible support and generosity of our students. On Wednesday we held a Coin, Can and Casuals Day, and our compassionate students went above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. They wore casual clothes and brought in cans of food to donate to those in need. In addition, each student donated a gold coin towards the appeal. The collective efforts of our students truly showcased their empathy and willingness to help others during the colder months. We are incredibly proud of their kindness and commitment to making a positive impact in our community.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Also known as the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, which means 'Body of Christ'. This feast is celebrated on the Thursday following the Trinity Sunday. It calls us to focus on the Body of Christ as the Holy Eucharist and the Church. Our worship of Jesus in His Body and Blood calls us to offer to God our Father a pledge of undivided love and an offering of ourselves to the service of others.

Liturgies and Masses

TERM 2

WEEK 7 Friday 16/6

Whole School Mass for the Feast of the Sacred Heart at 9.15am

WEEK 9 Tuesday 27th June

Year 2/3 Class Mass @9.15am
Reception/Year 1 liturgy @ 10.30am

Friday 30th June

Year 4, 5, 6 Class Mass @ 9.15am

Penola Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Zwanns

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Gospel 9:36 – 10:8

The Twelve are sent on a mission



photo gallery

Year 4/5 Camp

