

Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Term 4 Week 2

Friday, 27th October 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

- October -

- 30 Early Learning
- 31 All Saints Day Whole School Mass

-November -

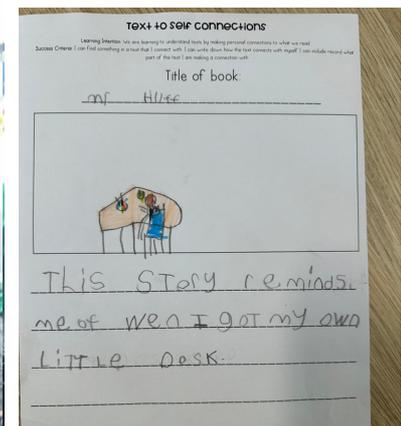
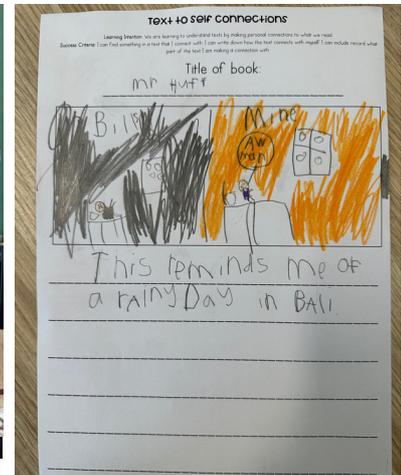
- 03 Sports Day
Playgroup
- 06 Early learning
Year 6 Camp
- 07 Joey's Jumpstart
- 09 Year 2/3 Camp
- 10 Playgroup
Year 6 and Year 2/3 Camp back
- 11 Remembrance Day
- 13 Early learning
PE Week
McCormack Day
- 14 YELP Forum
Joey's Jumpstart
SAPSASA Cricket
- 15 Woods-MacKillop Day
- 17 Playgroup
Cameron Day
Year 4/5 Assembly
- 20 Early Learning
- 21 Year 4/5 Class Mass
- 22 SAPSASA Tennis
- 24 Playgroup
Year R/1 Assembly
- 27 Early Learning
- 28 Year 2/3 Class Mass
Year R/1 Liturgy and Morning Tea

Class News

Year R/1

This week the Reception and Year One Class have been learning to make text-to-self connections.

Making a text-to-self connection is a reading comprehension strategy where the reader relates what they are reading to their own personal experiences, thoughts, or emotions. For example, if you read about a character who's scared, you think about a time when you were scared. It helps you understand the story better.



**RAISING HEARTS
AND MINDS**

in all things love

From the principal

Dear Families and Friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

Welcome to Term 4. This term is full of action packed learning activities. The highlights for this term would have to be the Year 6 Adelaide Camp and the Yr 2/3 Naracoorte Caves Camp. We look forward to these events and many other opportunities for our students this term to flourish! Our Yr 6s have an exciting term as they conclude their Primary Years of schooling and set themselves ready for Secondary School. We are so confident of our group of Yr 6s and the success that they will have in the future due to their thorough preparation for Secondary Education.

Communities of Practice

Last Friday the three Catholic Schools in the South-East gathered for our Communities of Practice Conference Day. (CoP23) This was a celebration of collaborative inquiry conducted by teachers in 2023. The day provided an opportunity for educators to share and reflect on learning challenges and celebrate the impact that they have had over the course of the year on students in their class through their inquiry. This year as a region we have purposefully endeavoured to foster teacher collaboration with a focus on the vision of Catholic Education South Australia to nurture thriving people, capable learners and leaders for the world God desires. We thank Tenison Woods College for hosting the day, in their new MacKillop Junior School Building.

World Teacher's Day

Today is World Teacher's Day, we say HATS OFF to all our teachers at Mary MacKillop Memorial School and to all the other teachers in the Limestone Coast Area. World Teacher's Days helps us recognise and celebrate the staff at our school who are always caring for our students and the community. I am sure that the whole Mary Mac community join me in saying thank you and HATS OFF to our wonderful teachers and staff. How very fortunate we are to have such passionate and committed people on the job!

Festival of Music

Tonight, our choir performs in the Festival of Music. The culmination of tonight's performance has been one which the choir has been working towards all year. I was privileged to drive them to the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre for their rehearsal and along the way they sang the songs – I had goosebumps with how wonderful they sounded. Congratulations to Kira who will sing a solo, to Ellie who will be one of the compères and to Sophie who will perform as part of the dance troupe. We are so proud of all of our choir members. Finally, a big thank you to Miss Kaitlyn Lusty, our choir teacher, who has prepared the students for tonight's performance, but more importantly has assisted them to refine and develop their singing skills and abilities with passion and dedication. It is such a thrill when students sing as a choir.

Pilgrim Dinner

Last Sunday night we hosted nearly 30 Pilgrims for dinner. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our community, and it is also a significant way to assist the parish and the Interpretative Centre. A very special thank you to Sam Evans, Cath Kidman, Alanah Foster and Justin Kain who volunteered to help out with preparation and serving the group. The Pilgrims sincerely enjoyed the evening.

Penola Show

It's Show Time! This week Kaitlyn Lusty, our visual and media arts teacher, has been very busy putting together our school display for all to enjoy. We thank her and the rest of the staff for assisting Kaitlyn in preparing this. Get on down and have a look!



Nicole Coote.

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Community News

Flourishing Awards

Congratulations to Indi, Micheal, Milly, Harley, Jett, Harry, Ruby, Oscar and Tess who received Flourishing awards at assembly this week..



House Points

Cameron ★ **263**

McCormack **241**

Woods MacKillop **276**

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

Birthdays

We wish a Happy Birthday to Freya (31) and Chloe (06). We hope you will all have a wonderful day.

Key Dates

Key Dates for Term 4 2023

Wednesday 6th Dec @ 6pm

Christmas Carols and Celebration: Carols and Community BBQ

Friday 8th Dec:

Beachport Surf Lifesaving Day – whole school excursion

Monday 11th Dec Reports go home

Yr 6 Class Mass @ 11.30 followed by luncheon

Class swaps for 2024 @ 2pm

Tuesday 12th Dec @ 5.30pm

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass, Awards, Farewells

Wednesday 13th Dec

Last day of School

Final Assembly and Guard of Honour @ 2.45pm

Dismissal @ 3.10pm

Key Dates for the Commencement of 2024 to assist with planning.

Monday 23rd January:

School Office Opens

Tuesday 24th January:

All teaching staff commence.

Friday 26th January:

Australia Day Public Holiday

Monday 29th January:

R – 6 Students commence Term 1 2024 and Welcome Back Morning Tea in Woods Learning Centre

Community News

Enrolments for 2024

Enrolments at Mary MacKillop Memorial School are welcome at any time. If you are interested or know of someone who is considering Mary Mac in 2024, we would love to show them around our beautiful school.

School Uniform

As we are now into Term 4 please ensure that your child is wearing the correct Summer Uniform on the correct day. You are able to find our Uniform Policy on our website, should you need to check. Also, please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly named. There is a small stock pile building up in the uniform room.

Early Arrivals

Please ensure that your child does not arrive at school prior to 8.25am, when yard supervision begins. There is a significant number of children arriving before this time and this is causing a challenge with our duty of care requirements. If, at times, you do need to drop your child to school earlier than 8.25am, please contact the school to arrange this.

Sports

Next Friday is Sports Day! A final reminder note has been sent home and all families will receive a program on Monday. Thank you to those parents who have indicated that they are able to help out. The response has been minimal and we are still after helpers. If you are able to help out please see and/or respond through Seesaw to your child's class teacher.

2024 Year 6 Leadership Program

In Year 6, students have the opportunity to take on roles as formal leaders and work side-by-side with their peers, students, staff and leadership. The 2024 Year 6 Leaders undertake a wide range of responsibilities and roles, including:

- School Captains
- House Captains
- Choir Leaders
- Environmental Leaders

In the coming weeks these opportunities will be outlined to the students. The Year 5 students will be supported to consider and apply for these roles. A more detailed letter will be distributed to all Year 5 students.

The School Captains for 2024 will be announced and presented to the community at the Christmas Carols evening.

EARLY LEARNING
An early years service for families of 3 - 5 year olds.

MONDAYS
9AM - 3PM

Full Day \$25
Half Day \$15

Led by a Qualified Educator

Contact Us
8737 2902
jcoote@mmms.catholic.edu.au

PLAYGROUP
FRIDAY 9.30AM-11.00AM

Come and enjoy a time to play and explore with your child.

Guided by our Early Years Coordinator

Bring a gold coin and a piece of fruit for a healthy snack

Contact the school for more information
8737 2902
jcoote@mmms.catholic.edu.au

Community News

Counsellor's Corner Helping children cope with change

Change can be a difficult concept for children. It often takes them longer to process and accept the change and often a child's behavior might seem completely different to their usual self as they go through the ebbs and flows of dealing with change. Change can come in the form of changing relationships in the family structure, starting a new sport, having a new teacher, getting a new pet or welcoming a new sibling into the family. The following tips might be useful in aiding your child/ren in navigating change successfully:

1. Keep all other routines constant

Children are often resistant to change because it causes a disruption in how they are used to day-to-day happenings. By keeping other routines e.g. such as bedtimes, meals, play times, morning and night routines the same, children can find a sense of comfort in the familiar even if the change is causing inconsistency in one or other areas of their lives.

2. Timing is crucial

When possible, giving children extended time to process change is generally helpful. This gives them time to prepare themselves for the change, which would help them get used to the idea of that change leading to an earlier and smoother acceptance thereof.

3. Use your resources

There are great books, video's, podcasts, audios, songs etc. on the various changes that children could face during their younger years. For example, reading books about a new sibling joining the family helps a child to conceptualize what the change will look, feel and sound like.

4. Maintain your connection with your child

By maintaining the amount of verbal affirmation and quality time spent with your child, helps them to realize that the new change is not taking their place. Children need the reassurance that they will still be seen, valued, loved even when the change takes place.

5. Communication is key

Giving children options for communication with you is important. Younger children enjoy knowing that if they need to talk to you once the change has happened that those communication channels will remain open. "What you are thinking and feeling is important to me, when we move to the new house, if you need to talk to me, but do not know how to start the conversation, you can leave this pebble on my pillow. This tells me that you need to talk."

6. Highlight previous successes

Reminding a child of times when they welcomed change previously helps them to know that they are capable of accepting new change e.g. "You were a champion on your first day of school! Even though you were nervous, you did so well, now look at you easily going to school every day. You are good at handling change!"

Dale Domleo.



Catholic Identity

All Saints and All Soul's Days.

The month of November begins with All Saints Day, 1st November, followed by All Soul's Day, 2nd November. Traditionally during the month of November, the Catholic Church honours and remembers the Saints and heroes of the Church and relatives and friends who have died. We are reminded that living or dead, we belong to the Communion of Saints, that those living on earth, and those who have lived before, are all united in the Body of Christ. Every day we commit ourselves to the our evolving vibrant faith tradition in a way that honours the past, with excitement for the future, and confidence in a life beyond what we know.

On Tuesday 31st October our school will lead the Parish Mass at 9.15am in the vigil for All Saints Day. Everyone is welcome to join us.

A Lamp

You are invited to 're-ignite', the beautiful tradition of lighting lamps or candles on All Saints and All Souls Days in memory of those who have passed away. This is an old Christian tradition especially on these feast days and still practiced widely in Northern European and some Asian countries. A lantern in the window is a sign of light and love to those who need to be guided home.



World Mission Month

This month is World Mission Month and this week is Mission Week, which is a celebration of global mission in schools across Australia.

The students have been learning more about helping others in need, particularly those in developing countries and the importance of mission and justice for others. Our Student Representative Council have planned a crazy sock day to raise funds for communities in Timor-Leste. This will occur on Tuesday 31st October – wear crazy socks and bring a gold coin donation for World Mission Month!

Liturgies and Masses

TERM 4

Week 3 - Tuesday 31 October

All Saints Day Whole School Mass @ 9.15am

Week 6 - Tuesday 21 November

Yr 4/5 Class Mass @ 9.15am

Week 7 - Tuesday 28 November

Yr 2/3 Class Mass @9.15am

Week 7 - Tuesday 28 November

R/1 Liturgy@ 9.15am

Week 9 - Monday - 11 December

Yr 6 Class Mass

Week 9 - Tuesday 12 December

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass - @ 5.30pm