

Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Term 4 Week 4

Friday, 10th November 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

-November -

- 11 Remembrance Day
- 13 Early learning
PE Week
- 14 YELP Forum
Joey's Jumpstart
SAPSASA Cricket
- 17 Playgroup
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
Joey's Jumpstart

-December -

- 1 Playgroup
Year 5/6 Assembly
- 3 First Day of Advent
- 4 Early Learning
Year 7 2024 TWC Orientation Day
- 5 Year 7 2024 TWC Orientation Day
Joey's Jumpstart
- 6 Christmas Carols and Community
BBQ
- 8 Playgroup
Beachport Surf Lifesaving Day
- 10 Second Sunday of Advent

Class News

Year 4/5

Our Year 6 students had the time of their lives in Adelaide, and they made some incredible memories. They were busy exploring the amazing city and making new friends with St. Anthony's Students. Their adventures took them to the Maritime Museum and the historic old gaol, where they learned about the rich history of Adelaide. They even had the pleasure of reuniting with their former priest, Father Michael, who shared his wisdom and knowledge about St. Anthony's relic.

Of course, they couldn't resist taking a dip in the campsite pool to cool off in the Adelaide heat as well as going for a scenic beach walk to soak in the beautiful views. The beach house added an extra layer of fun with bumper cars and thrilling waterslides. They also had a blast at AFL Max and Bounce.

While they had an amazing time away, it's safe to say that they were all eagerly looking forward to being back home. The experiences they had, the friendships they made, and the knowledge they gained will stay with them forever.



**RAISING HEARTS
AND MINDS**

in all things love

From the principal

Dear Families and Friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

Camps

This week I had the pleasure of joining the Yr 6 group on camp in Adelaide. Our joint camp with St Anthony's Yr 6s is a highlight of the year for our senior students.

While in Adelaide we stayed at the West Beach Caravan Park and from there we took in many experiences that Adelaide has to offer. Some of the most favourite were AFL Max and the Beach House, the Adelaide Zoo, Bounce, and water play and swimming fun! At the South Australian Art Gallery, we had a very informative guided tour of some amazing exhibits and enjoyed the thrills of the Tree Climb! The week has been action packed and no doubt there will be some weary campers disembarking the bus this afternoon! It was a absolute privilege to spend time with the outstanding group of Yr 6 students from both schools. I would like to thank Dave Green from St Anthony's and Sam Baxter for their organization of the camp experiences, with attention to detail. I would particularly like to thank Amy Boyd for accompanying our group, caring for them and making sure that all students got the most out of their camp experience.

Last night the Yr 2/3s enjoyed their overnight stay at the Naracoorte Caves where they were guided through the caves and learnt about what walked the earth many thousand of years ago. They saw the bats fly in and enjoyed a hearty breakfast of pancakes before adventuring to the pool to cool off! A camp is a unique experience for children where not only are they able to build on specific skills, but also socialise with their friends, (and new friends) in a very different environment. Camps build resilience, independence and risk taking, and to top it off they are so much fun!

Sports Day

Last Friday a very successful Sports Day was held. The weather was perfect and fantastic sportsmanship was on display as well as healthy competition. Congratulations to Cameron who took out the Athletics Shield and congratulations to Woods-MacKillop who won the Gardiner Cup, which is contested between the three Houses over the school year for school service. Well done to Sophie and Harry who were the Junior Sports Champions on the day and to Sophie and Alex, who took out the Senior Sports Champions. The parent/student race was once again a highly contested event, which saw Jack over run Alex in the last leg of the relay. A huge thank you to all of the parent helpers. A day like last Friday is not possible without volunteers to give of their time, whether it was during the Junior Tabloid events, field and track events or at the BBQ – you are absolute superstars! It was wonderful to see the large family attendance and support from parents and extended family members. The encouragement was certainly appreciated by all participants. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the staff at Mary MacKillop Memorial School for your preparation and commitment to the organization of the sports day. Particularly the behind the scenes work by Rachel. Every year a little tweak is made to our Sports Day, and it just keeps getting better and better!

Wishing all a fantastic weekend and if you are out walking or running in the Coonawarra Running Festival – good luck, you might even receive a medal from one of our volunteers, Indi, Kira or Kenzo!

God bless.



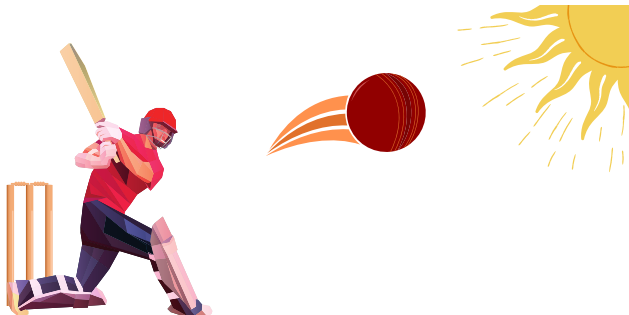
Nicole Coote.

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Community News

Sports

Next week we wish our SAPSASA cricketers of Jimmy, Sid, Finn all the best as they represent the Mid-South East! Play hard and play well!



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

Key Dates

Key Dates for Term 4 2023

Wednesday 6th Dec:

Christmas Carols and Celebration: Carols and Community BBQ @ 6pm

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

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass, Awards, Farewells @ 5.30pm

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

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



Catholic Identity

The Remembrance Day

Saturday 11 November

On the 11th hour, the 11th day of the 11th month each year Australian communities observe a minute silence to pay tribute to the men and women who gave service to their country. Over the past century, this moment has been adopted as a significant event across the globe as a time to remember all these people. At Mary MacKillop Memorial School, we lay a wreath at the service at the War Memorial site at the park. It is in honour of those who have served and are still serving in our defense forces. On each Remembrance Day let us always remember those who have fallen. Universally, the red poppy stands as a valuable symbol of 'remembrance'. This delicate little flower continues to represent some hope, hope of a more peaceful world to come. This week students at school have been acknowledging Remembrance Day by making their own poppies and learning about the significance of this day. Tomorrow members of our choir will sing at the service and we thank them for their commitment to this occasion.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them."



All Saints day

Last Tuesday we gathered to celebrate Mass together as a whole school reflecting on All Saints Day and the Saints that we look up to as role models in our lives. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is one such saint. I would like to thank the students for their reverent engagement in the Mass, which was particularly noticed by parishioners and visitors to our parish.

St Anthony Relic

While on the Yr 6 camp we visited the parish of Our Lady Queen of Peace. Fr Michael Romeo is the parish priest, and it was wonderful to see him. He greeted our students warmly, remembering everyone's name. At Our Lady Queen of Peace, they have a first-grade relic, which is a piece of St Anthony of Padua cheek. This is stored in a special reliquary to keep it safe. We were lucky enough to receive a St Anthony prayer card from Fr Michael, and then got to touch the reliquary, which then meant that our prayer cards became a third-grade relic. How very special!

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Christmas can be a very difficult time for families in crisis, in particular those who are experiencing poverty and are disadvantaged. Your support this year can help assist the families who turn to St Vincent de Paul for support over the festive season. Our school is again supporting the Vinnies Christmas Appeal this year through the collection of toys and food. Donations of gifts and/or non-perishable food items can be placed under the Giving Tree in the front office. (this will be going up next week!)

Together we can make a real difference to those less fortunate. As St Mary of the Cross MacKillop would say, 'Never see a need without doing something about it.'

Liturgies and Masses

TERM 4

Week 6 - Tuesday 21 November

Yr 4/5 Class Mass @ 9.15am

Week 7 - Tuesday 28 November

Yr 2/3 Class Mass @ 9.15am

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



photo gallery

Sports Day





photo gallery

Sports Day





photo gallery

Year 6 Camp

