

Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Term 1 Week 6

Friday, 8th March 2024

Reception to Year 6 Co-Educational Catholic Primary School

5 Portland Street, Penola SA 5277

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



*go with strength
and courage*

UPCOMING DATES

- March -

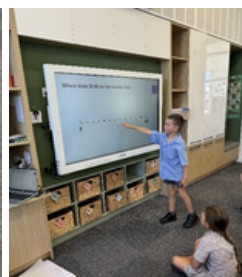
- 8 Assembly R/1
Adelaide Cup
- 11 **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**
- 12 Staff Learning Professional Day
STUDENT FREE DAY
- 13 Year 4/5 Robe Camp (3 days)
Naplan (3 days)
- 15 Playgroup
Penola-Coonawarra Acoustic
Music Festival: Year 6
- 18 Occasional Care
- 19 St Joseph Feast Day Mass
(9:15am)
- 20 School Board Meeting (7:00pm)
- 21 Harmony Day
SAPSASA District Athletics Day
(Millicent)
Playgroup
Ride/Walk2 School Day
Assembly 2/3
Occasional Care
- 25 TWC Family Gathering (6:00pm)
Annunciation of the Lord
- 28 Holy Thursday
- 29 Project Compassion Ends
GOOD FRIDAY
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- April -
- 1 **EASTER MONDAY**
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- 2 SAPSASA District Golf Day
(Penola)

Class News

Year 2/3

The year 2/3 students have been exploring addition and subtraction during our maths lessons! We've been exploring different ways to approach problems, and one method that has captured our interest is using number lines. We've been enthusiastically crafting our own number lines and mastering the art of labelling them accurately. It's been an adventure learning how to partition those tricky 2 or 3-digit numbers, systematically breaking them down on our number lines to solve equations.

With each number line we create, we're gaining a deeper understanding of how numbers interact in addition and subtraction.



**RAISING HEARTS
AND MINDS**

go with strength and courage

from the principal

Dear Families and Friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

As a school we are unpacking the Josephite values, beginning with LOVE!

Love encompasses compassion, kindness and care. It is a value that resonates with the way in which we are in relationship with each other. I am continuously amazed and proud of our students and their genuine love for each other and our school. While unpacking this value further in the classroom students identified how they could see, hear and feel love at Mary MacKillop Memorial School. Have a look on our photo gallery page for some of their responses!

School Board Community BBQ

Last Friday we were invited by our School Board to a BBQ at school. It was a fantastic time for families to get together and we had a great turn out for this event! Thanks to all of the families who attended and especially to our School Board for hosting this event. It certainly was a wonderful occasion to be together and get to know one another better. And the kids had a great time playing at school after school hours.

Learning Conversations

Thank you to all of the families that attended the Learning Conversations this past week. These conversations are a crucial part of the learning process here at Mary MacKillop Memorial School as they help to foster the relationships between teacher, parent and student. The Learning Conversations are a wonderful opportunity for students to share their co-constructed learning goals for the semester with their parents and to discuss their child's progress thus far. I would like to thank our teaching staff for their preparations for these important conversations.

Student Led Goal Setting

As mentioned above Mary MacKillop Memorial School has a focus on student led goal setting. Over the past several weeks teachers have been working with students to help them plan and set individual learning goals for the semester ahead. Each child was given time to work with their teacher, look at their current learning, and from this, set a goal that they would like to see themselves achieve. I encourage you to talk with your child about their goals and ask them how you can help them be successful.

Clean Up Australia Day

Last Friday our school participated in Clean Up Australia Day. Our students cleaned up rubbish from our school yard (not much at all – hooray!) and the surrounding streets. We were able to make our neighbourhood squeaky clean! Initiatives like this are a fantastic opportunity to share the importance of correct waste management and landcare with our children.

Wellbeing as an Imperative

Recently all students undertook Catholic Education South Australia Classroom Pulse Check In. Every term every child undertakes this survey. It asks students questions about wellbeing, feeling supported, feeling like they belong and having agency of their learning. This data is then compared to the previous terms data and analysed by staff. It is important that as a school we continue to grow and develop and be accountable for providing a learning environment that makes all children feel safe, supported and feel like they are thriving. If not, why not? From the data we are able to highlight those students that require intentional growth action plan to improve outcomes for them. It is an important part of our accountability as educators.

As we move into the long weekend, with the extra pupil free/staff professional learning day on Tuesday, I wish all a safe and restful family time together.

God bless,

Nicole

go with strength and courage

Catholic Identity

Why 40 Days of Lent?

One of the questions that children often ask during Lent is why does it go for 40 days? This is a great question. One I'd wager many adults struggle to answer. Firstly, I would like to point out (those paying close attention might have already worked this out) that there are actually **46** days in the season of Lent. This is because Sundays are not counted within the strict Lenten observances.

Still, why 40? The answer to this is twofold. Firstly, it recalls the time that Jesus spent in the desert prior to beginning his public ministry. During this time Jesus fasted, prayed, and was tempted by the devil. During our Lent preparation we emulate Jesus's time in the desert in our own fasting and prayer. The number 40 is also a regular occurrence in the Bible. Moses and the Israelites wandered the desert for 40 years, the flood from Noah's ark lasted for 40 days. These too were times of preparation.

Lenten Prayer Resource

I encourage you to once again use the Family Prayer resource provided by the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide.

Copy the link below for a child friendly video you might like to watch about Jesus's time in the desert.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mc-x4qKY6Wc>


Lent Week Four

Fourth Sunday
LIGHT: 8 Tealights + Christ Candle (any large candle)
PRAY: Forgiver of our souls, our hearts are hard, soften them. Our eyes are blind; open them, and continue to wash us with a renewal of life. Amen.
EXTINGUISH: 5 Tealights
READ: John 3:14-21
REFLECT: so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life...
BLESS: May God bless you and keep you! May the radiant face of God shine upon you as you learn to serve your neighbour with God's steadfast love. Amen.

Activity
Do you ever look around the world and feel angry? Anger is an important emotion, and can often call our attention to injustice. Do you ever look around the world and feel blessed?
As a family, make two pairs of homemade goggles (or just decorate old sunglasses) and take turns putting them on to "see" both injustices and blessings alike.

Things to Remember
YOU CAN!
• It's okay to make mistakes
• It's okay to have bad days
• It's okay to start again
• It's okay to be awesome

Conversation Starters
• In the parable of the blind men, the people touched the elephant and drew different conclusions. What do you think the elephant was like?
• When have you had to be brave or courageous? What happened? What did you do?
• What is the "blindness" that you may have today? What could you do this Lenten season to open your eyes?



Project Compassion

Please keep those donations coming in to support those in need!

Scan the QR code below to donate through our Mary MacKillop Memorial School Page.



Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes, online by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Lent Week Three

Third Sunday
LIGHT: 8 Tealights + Christ Candle (any large candle)
PRAY: Loving God, let us be reminded that You are still tending the garden and help me to bear fruit today. Amen.
EXTINGUISH: 4 Tealights
READ: John 2:13-25
REFLECT: Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up... But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered.
BLESS: May God bless you and keep you! May He continue to work in and through you to bring light and life, love and peace to a broken world. Amen.

Activity
From the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, food is at the center of community in many cultures - and therefore a great way to introduce your family to customs and traditions different from your own.
This week, try three new dishes from a variety of cultures, and open your family's hearts and palates to the beauty of God's diversity.

Practice
Ideas for an act of kindness that you can show others this week:
• Pick up rubbish around your school or neighbourhood
• Donate unused or outgrown clothing to a nearby charity
• Bake cookies and deliver them to a neighbour
• Let someone go in front of you in line at the store
• Set the table for dinner and clean up afterwards too
• Leave a happy note in a library book for someone to find later

Conversation Starters
• If you could change one thing in the world, what would you change?
• What's the biggest way you've changed over the years?
• Jesus calls us to repent... How does that make you feel?
• Have you ever experienced the sacrament of Reconciliation? How did you feel afterwards?



Community News

Birthdays

We wish a Happy Birthday to Belle, who will be celebrating in week 8 on the 19th of March.

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

House Points

Cameron 21

McCormack 21

Woods MacKillop 30

Flourishing Awards

Last week we congratulated 10 students who received Flourishing Awards at Assembly. We congratulated Ted, Elsie, Angus, Paige, Henry, Josh, Henna, Juliet, Micheal and Grace.



Liturgies and Masses

TERM 1: Everyone is welcome!

WEEK 8 Tuesday 19th March

Whole School Feast of St Joseph Mass at 9:15am

WEEK 9 Monday 25th March

Whole School Mass for the Annunciation of the Lord

Professional Learning Day

A friendly reminder that on March 12th we will be having a Student Free Day to engage in Mathematics professional learning. Numeracy is a priority for review at Mary MacKillop Memorial School in 2024.

2024 Mid-Year Reception Enrolments - FREE FREE

Mid year enrolments are now open for all children who turn 5 on or before the 31st October. The fees for mid-year Reception enrolments will be free for the two terms of schooling. If you have a child who is able to begin Reception in in Term 3 2024, please complete an enrolment form and return it to the front office. If you know of any families who are thinking about enrolling their child at Mary MacKillop Memorial School for Term 3 2024, please let them know about our mid-year fee free enrolment intake or alternatively, they can contact the school on 87372902 at any time. We welcome all new families!

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.

Community News

Counsellor's Corner

HOW TO INCREASE INDEPENDENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY IN YOUR CHILD

As parents, our main aim is to help our children grow and learn independence and responsibility early on. We can do this by giving them simple tools and guidance during their primary school years. Here are some tips to help them become more independent and responsible:

Encourage Decision Making: Offer choices within limits, allowing your child to make decisions and learn from the outcomes.

Foster Self-Help Skills: Teach simple tasks such as dressing, cleaning, and making easy meals, then add more difficulty as they mature.

Assign Age-Appropriate Chores: Engage your child in household tasks to promote a sense of contribution and accountability.

Establish Routines: Create consistent daily routines to promote independence in managing time and tasks.

Praise Efforts: Acknowledge and celebrate your child's efforts and achievements, reinforcing their sense of capability and responsibility.

By implementing these strategies, we equip our children with the tools they need to navigate the world with confidence, independence, and a strong sense of responsibility.

Joey's Jumpstart Program

We are incredibly proud of our Joey's Jumpstart Program that assists students to move seamlessly into the school environment, while still respecting the importance of completing their Kindy journey. The Joey's Jumpstart Program will begin at the beginning of Term 2 for 7 weeks. We have available the Joey's Jumpstart Program flyer that you are able to access through the school on our school website.

Yelp

Last Wednesday March 6th, 4 of our Environmental Leaders Juliet, Max, Lilly and Lillith, accompanied by Mrs Coote, attended the first YELP forum for 2024, at the Naracoorte Caves. The program has been implemented to involve students in developing their connection to the natural environment and to grow as leaders. Throughout the year, our team including Camilla, Tess and Charlie, will use their critical and creative skills to create a project that they will present at the final YELP Forum day in term 4. We are looking forward to following their journey through the year.



Community News

NAPLAN ONLINE

Over weeks 7 and 8 our Year 3 and 5 students will begin their NAPLAN testing for 2024.

NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken every year. The information that we get from NAPLAN, along with other assessments, helps us to tailor our teaching and learning programs to individuals and cohorts of students.

Our students have been familiarising themselves with the testing format over the past several weeks. Should you wish to have a look at the platform, or even try some of the testing at home, you can visit the NAPLAN demonstration site linked below.

<https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

Please see the schedule for our testing. Should your child be absent on any given test day, they will be provided with the opportunity of a catch up session throughout weeks 7 and 8. If you have a planned absence or your child is unwell on a testing, please contact your child's teacher so we can make the necessary arrangements.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss NAPLAN further please contact Sam Baxter at sbaxter@mmms.catholic.edu.au

	Year 3	Year 5
Writing	Wednesday 13/3 9:00am	Monday 18/3 11:30am
Reading	Thursday 14/3 9:30am	Tuesday 19/3 11:30am
Conversations of Language	Friday 15/3 11:30am	Wednesday 20/3 9:00am
Numeracy	Monday 18/3 9:00am	Wednesday 20/3 11:30am

SPORT SAPSASA Swimming

Congratulations to Tait, Cam, Juliet, Chloe, Lilly, Tess and Oscar for being selected in the Mid South East SAPSASA Swim Team. Their dedication, hard work and passion for this sport is commendable. We have no doubt they will thrive at the State Swimming Carnival in Adelaide in week 10.



Community News

Movie Night Scrapper

Friday 15th March, 2024

Come join for their first official fundraiser to support the Penola Entrant for 'Swinging With The Stars' 2024 - Cory O'Conner.

standlikestone **COONAWARRA**
PENOLA COONAWARRA WELLBEING CLUB FUND
FRIDAY 15 MARCH 7.00PM

This vibrant and inventive father-daughter comedy follows Georgie (Lola Campbell), a resourceful 12-year-old girl who lives happily alone in her London flat, filling it with magic. Suddenly, her estranged father (Harris Dickinson) turns up and forces her to confront reality. Scrapper is full of spirit and humour. The actors imbue irresistible charm into this moving and frequently hilarious story of two emotionally tangled people: a grieving kid thrust into adulthood and a father in over his head.

★★★★ Bold and youthful *sundance* Full of rare heart! ★★★★★
SCRAPPER
harris dickinson
lola campbell
charlotte regan

PG

COONAWARRA HALL, 11 MEMORIAL DRIVE
TICKETS: \$10 ADULT, \$5 CHILDREN - AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

This Fundraiser is in support of Stand Like Stone.
Money raised will solely target charitable projects that benefit Penola Coonawarra.

Greenbottles Hockey Club

The Naracoorte Greenbottles Hockey Club is hosting a free come and try session for all new and existing players aged from 5 to 13 years.

When: Friday 1st March 2024

Time: 4:30 to 6pm

Where: Naracoorte District Hockey Association Fields

2 Playford Drive West, Naracoorte

2024 GREENBOTTLES HOCKEY CLUB COME & TRY & JNR SIGN-UP

BOYS & GIRLS 5-13 Years Old

Saturday Games
Under 9's - mixed
Under 13's - mixed

Greenbottles Hockey Club is hosting a free come & try session for all new or existing players.

This session is a great way to take your first steps into hockey in a safe & controlled environment.

Hockey sticks can be provided.

Followed by signing-up information & a free BBQ. Bar facilities will be open for adults.

COME & TRY
Friday 1st MARCH 2024
4:30 TO 5:30 PM - COME & TRY
5:30 TO 6 PM - SIGN-UP
6 PM - BBQ

AT NDHA FIELDS

Contact
HENRY NORCOCK 0407 046 208
RACHAEL WITHERS 0407 848 712

GREENBOTTLESHOCKEYCLUB GREENBOTTLES_HOCKEY_CLUB

Community News

Playgroup

The MMMS Playgroup now has their own Facebook Page and Group, run by our Playgroup coordinator Ebonie Moulton. Included in the Facebook Page is a link for expressions of interest. Check out the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/YfWqHpNA6>

Playgroup will be held every Friday from 9:30am - 11:00am with a gold coin donation on arrival. Every week is a different theme, and all family and friends of the community are welcome.



Occasional Care

Occasional Care 2024

To book please follow the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/GBzjFsZsbi>

Come along to Occasional Care each Monday. ALL families from the Penola and wider community are welcome to attend.

This year the Occasional Care program will be coordinated by qualified educator Leah Kuiper.

The Occasional Care Program is guided by the Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Framework for Australia (EYLF). Each child's current knowledge, strengths, ideas and interests are foundational to our program. Educators actively engage with children in their play and facilitate and extend their learning and development. Flexible learning environments are designed as an invitation for learning, and our responsive routine enables children to make choices and decisions in their learning. Open ended experiences, child-initiated learning will be used to foster children's thinking and curiosity.

A poster for MMMS PLAYGROUP. At the top left, 'MMMS PLAYGROUP' is written in large, bold, green letters. Below it, 'Play Group Coordinator: Ebonie Moulton' is written in smaller green text. On the right side is the school's crest. The main body of the poster is a yellow sticky note with the heading 'WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT THIS YEAR!' and a list of bullet points: 'WHAT TIME? 9:30AM - 11AM EVERY FRIDAY MORNING', 'DIFFERENT WEEKLY THEMES', 'CREATIVE ACTIVITIES', 'A SAFE AND FUN SPACE TO PLAY AND ENGAGE WITH YOUR CHILD', and 'CRAFTED FOR BABIES, TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOL CHILDREN (AGED UNDER 4)'. Below the list, it says 'ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME!' and '\$\$ GOLD COIN DONATION ON ARRIVAL'. The background is light blue with scattered yellow stars and pink hearts.

A poster for Occasional Care. At the top, it says 'Mary MacKillop Memorial School OCCASIONAL CARE'. Below that, it says 'An early years service for families of 3-5 year olds' and 'Facilitated by a qualified educator Leah Kuiper'. There are three circular callouts: 'MONDAYS' with drop-off and pick-up times, 'Half Day \$15' and 'Full Day \$25', and 'ALL children within Penola and surrounds welcome.' At the bottom, there is contact information: 'For more information 8737 2902', 'lkuiper@mmms.catholic.edu.au', and 'Use the QR code for information and to book'. A QR code is provided. There are also several circular photos of children playing.





photo gallery

The Value of Love at Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Love
What is love?
It means care and giving - Will

Love means Sharing - Patrick
When someone lets you play - Fred

Hugs and kisses, gifts - William E

Colours - Amber

How do we show love?
- playing and being nice
- Give poor people money/food
- Give gifts
- Be responsible, not mean, be kind because we care onto it
- Give heart shapes Chocolates.

People we love
My mum - Patrick
My brother - William
My family - Ted
Friends - Elsie
Nan - Will
"You can love trees which is creation"

LOVE FEELS LIKE
angry.

Happy kind
great warmth
a deep connection
excited joyful

Safe nice
comfort graceful
handshakes

holding hands
kissing

Caring for others
Laughing fun times
doing things together
friendship including others
cleaning up kindness
Looking after God's Creation.

Compliments.
Sounds of nature
Thanking.
tone of voice
Saying 'I love you'
asking how you are
Yelling
laughing
birds

We can show love by...

Give people cards when they are hurt.

Helping people when they are hurt.

We can show love by

Boxing
Sharing
help

We can show love by playing.
We can show love by smiling.

be honest
be kind
be thankful
I help others

take your seat and help fish
if some ones hurt look

Share the food
without being selfish
help others

What does love sound like?

kind words
being kind
helpful advice

calling softly
kind actions
being an honest friend

What does love look like?

never see a need without doing something about it
not changing the rules mid game

someone hugging you
happiness
being helped
what does love feel like?
being kind
welcoming

Unpacking Love Yr 2/3

Feels Like
Happy loving warmth
calm special nice
sharing caring
soft helpful Always feel loved

Sounds Like
manners I miss you
compliments
forgiveness
cheering caring
calm laughter
Sometimes crying
I love you

Looks Like
Playing together
giving presents
hugging loved ones
kissing kindness
helping others
sharing grateful
looking out for one another



photo gallery

YELP





photo gallery

Student Learning

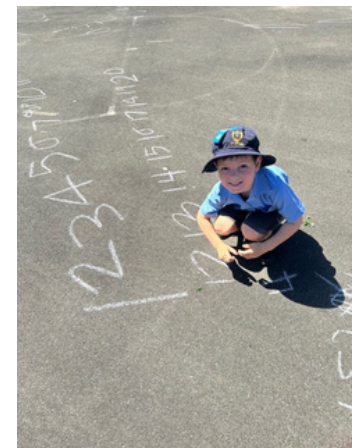




photo gallery

Clean Up Australia Day



@marymackillopmemorial



Mary MacKillop Memorial School



Class updates on Seesaw