



Newsletter

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

In All Things Love

Reception to Year Seven Co-Educational Catholic Primary School

5 Portland Street, Penola SA 5277

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

Term 1 Week 2

Thursday, February 10th 2022

UPCOMING DATES

FEBRUARY

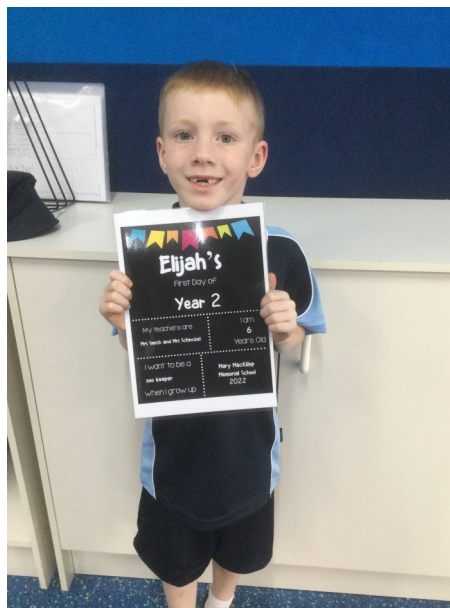
- 18 Occasional Care
8.45am
SAPSASA Swimming
trials (POSTPONED)
- 21 Mission Australia
Family session
5.30pm
- 25 Occasional Care
8.45am
- 28 Playgroup 9.30am

MARCH

- 1 Shrove Tuesday
- 2 Ash Wednesday
- 4 Occasional Care
8.45am
Clean up Australia
Day
- 7 Playgroup 9.30am
- 7-11 Swimming lessons
- 11 Occasional care
8.45am
Year 6 assembly
2.30pm

YEAR 2/3 CLASS NEWS

The beginning of school has been exciting and rewarding. The year 2/3s have enjoyed face to face and remote learning over the first two weeks.



Year 2/3 have been busy designing a holiday buddy using recycled materials. They have also designed a profile for their holiday buddy, some even have a licence as they are old enough to drive!



RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

in all things love

from the principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome back for 2022! I was inspired by the start the Mary MacKillop Memorial School Community made to the 2022 school year. Staff and students were looking refreshed and relaxed after the holiday break, even if it was online for some, ready to take on the challenges of the school year. A very special welcome to our new staff members and new students and their families. I have no doubt that our school community will welcome you all with open arms! I hope you make many long-lasting friendships and enjoy your learning at Mary MacKillop Memorial School.

Although the first day back we didn't have everyone learning at school, it was wonderful to see and hear the children exploring their new learning environments and sharing holiday news either face to face or via Teams.

I look forward to another year where each and every student is provided with opportunities to learn, grow, lead and have fun at our school with the support of the parents and the wider school community.

'We must lead more by example, than by word'. (Mary MacKillop 1867)

In 2022 our actions will speak a thousand words. This year we are encouraging all to lead by example, to set a high standard and to always try to do their best. To be the best version of themselves, in all aspects of their lives, each and every day. This is what St Mary of the Cross MacKillop asks of us and has inspired us to achieve.

This is our message today, tomorrow and into the future of 2022. As students express the best version of themselves, they will grow in confidence, resilience and flourish to be competent and capable in all they do.

I look forward to us developing a deeper connection and understanding to the Living Learning Leading Framework key capabilities, unpacking each one to give all students the opportunity to grow in each capability and to recognise the skills and dispositions that they possess and how to develop them.



In 2022 our focus is on:

- Wellbeing as an imperative through our work with Life Buoyancy Institute – Resilient Impact utilising the What-What-How strategy
- Student agency, co-construction, task design and assessment
- Regional moderation, with a particular focus on writing
- Case management meetings to monitor individual student progress



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FAREWELL Fr MICHAEL AND WELCOME TO Fr DEV.

In January we said farewell to Fr Michael. Fr Michael has been the Parish Priest at St Joseph's since 2018, the same year that I started at Mary MacKillop Memorial School. His hard work, dedication and commitment to the parish, school and community has been outstanding. The support that he has provided for all has been acted out through his love of Jesus and the Church. Fr Michael has been a constant light, giving love and encouragement to all. We have learnt from Fr Michael that Jesus is with us always and that He is our comfort and our inspiration of how we live our daily life. We will sincerely miss Fr Michael, but we know that Archbishop Pat has important work for him in Adelaide.

We hope at some stage Fr Michael will be able to make a visit to MMMS so that the children are able to say their very own farewell – face-to-face.

We welcome Fr Dev, who is replacing Fr Michael. We look forward to working closely with Fr Dev and getting to know him and his story over the coming months.

COVID-19

As the community would know, to date we have had a Year 4 student test positive to COVID-19, and we have followed the SA Health and CESA protocols of:

1. The COVID-19 positive case is off-site, recovering and isolating for the required 10 days.
2. Staff classroom contacts have been notified immediately.
3. Letters were sent to the parents of the student classroom contacts and staff classroom contacts – clarifying the process going forward.
4. Parents have been asked to monitor and test student classroom contacts as they deem necessary if symptoms develop.
5. Staff have commenced the RAT "test to stay" approach.

We continue our approach to keeping the community safe:

- The wearing of masks
- Sanitising of hands and learning surfaces regularly
- Natural ventilation
- Minimising movement and visitors within the school

I hope that next week we are able to settle into our normal routine of teaching and learning.

There are many wonderful opportunities and experiences planned for 2022, it is an exciting time at MMMS. We look forward to rigorous learning experiences that promote student wellbeing and academic growth. If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact the school. Open communication between the school and families is paramount to student learning. I look forward to seeing everyone around school in the not-too-distant future.

Our children's worries

As a community we have at present one COVID positive case. This has an impact on us all and will continue to have an impact into the future.

We know that these are worrying times as a parent as we try to make sense of everything. It can be an even bigger worry for our children as they have less understanding and maturing to cope with difficult events. Below is a link to a short video to help you talk to your child about what is happening and dealing with their emotions, and yours. If at any time you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call.

<https://vimeo.com/394049129>

God bless,



Nicole

RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

STAFFING

We congratulate Ella Hutchesson on being appointed as our very first Administration Trainee. Ella will spend 12 months with us undertaking various administration duties before heading off to university in 2023. Please say Hi to Ella and introduce yourself next time you call into the office.

WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY

At the beginning of this year, we welcomed Leila, Winnie, Mika, Jett, Vinnie, Alfie and James and also Finn, Henna, Elijah, Annabelle, Ben, and Nate to our school community. We also welcomed all of our returning staff, students and families. The first two weeks have provided us with much joy and celebration as laughter and happy voices filled our yard and classrooms sharing holiday news and hopes for the 2022 school year.



SCHOOL FEES

You will receive an invoice for school fees next week. School Fees have remained the same in 2022. Families will be invoiced the whole amount at the beginning of the year (excluding camps) and you will be able to work towards paying off the full amount in whatever way works best for you. We ask each family to complete the Payment Plan Agreement Forms and return to school as soon as possible. Our aim, in alignment with Mary MacKillop's legacy, is to make our school a welcoming and affordable place for all. At the same time, we need to ensure that the school operates in a financially sustainable manner that provides the best learning opportunities for all students. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Janice Coote or Nicole Coote.

SCHOOL CARD

School Card Applications for 2022 are available at the front office. If you think you might be eligible, please see Janice Coote as soon as possible.

OCCASIONAL CARE

Occasional Care is held on **Friday mornings from 8.45—11.45am**. This year Romi Eckermann is our early years coordinator for Occasional Care and Playgroup. Romi is new to this role and will be supported by Lyn Davis and Christina Moutos, Early Years Consultant from Catholic Education South Australia. We are looking forward to the new and exciting learning opportunities for the children. If you, or someone you know would like to access Occasional Care—please contact the school. Occasional Care will be returning in Week 3.

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup is on a **Monday morning from 9.30—11am**. We welcome all families from the community to come and experience fun activities together with Romi, our Playgroup Coordinator. Playgroup will resume in Week 5.

MARY MACKILLOP MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – RESCHEDULED
WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH

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SWIMMING

Swimming lessons have been rescheduled to Week 6 and will be undertaken by the whole school. Water safety is part of the Australian Curriculum and we are very fortunate to be able to offer such an intensive experience for our students, culminating in a whole school swimming carnival which has been scheduled for March 22nd.

We will once again be looking for parent volunteers. More information will be distributed closer to the date.

BUILDING DEVELOPMENT



It is with great excitement that we watch the progress of our new build taking place. The 1936 building has been gutted and new walls are starting to be framed up. The new learning space is moving along very quickly with frames up also and the roof coming soon. The new space will include a media pod, cooking facilities, art and environmental science area. We are anticipating that the entire build will be completed by the end of Term 1, or before.

CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY GRADUATION

Children's University (CUA) is an innovative program that engages children and young people in beyond school learning, increases educational attainment and achievement, and encourages and rewards participants for taking responsibility for their own learning.

If your child is interested in engaging with this program, please see Alison Smith (coordinator).

TEXT ABSENTEE NUMBER

If your child is absent you are able to text their absence on the following number: 0459799596

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BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday for the following Grace (8th), Iris (8th), Ruby (10th), Edward (12th), James (14th), and Charles (15th), who had their Birthdays during the holidays. As well as the following Sophie (2nd), Miss Boyd (7th), Mrs Coote (17th) Rylee-Jay (18th), Tess (23rd), Elijah (23rd), and Josh (24th). We hope you had or have a great day.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING/STUDENT FREE DAYS 2022

Term 1

Tuesday: 15th March

Term 2

Thursday: 9th June

Friday: 10th June

Term 3

Friday: 9th September Regional Retreat Day

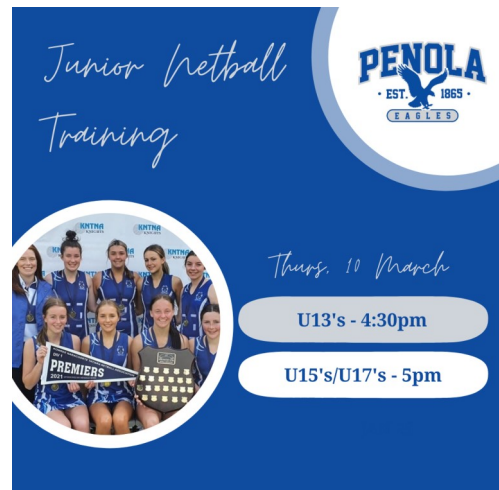
Term 4

Friday: 21st October

Thursday: 15th Dec

Friday: 16th Dec

PENOLA NETBALL CLUB



Starting on the 10th of March the Penola Netball Club welcomes players and those interested in netball training. Under 13 players start at 4.30pm at McCorquindale Park's netball courts.

Welcome

Hello all and welcome to a new school year. I am thrilled to be here at Mary MacKillop Memorial School in 2022 and looking forward to getting to know everyone throughout this year. The past two weeks, getting to know students and parents alike, has been fantastic. I have enjoyed the warm welcome from all .

I come to Mary MacKillop Memorial with over 12 years of teaching in Catholic Education and am excited to continue this journey in Penola. My family and I moved to Penola over the Christmas break and are enjoying setting up our house and getting to know the local area and surrounds. My children especially love the pool and lolly shop!

I have 5 young children, three of which are attending Mary MacKillop Memorial this year. My eldest has started high school and my youngest (18 months old) keeps my wife very busy during the days.

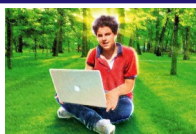
In 2022 you will see me in multiple roles around the school. I will be splitting my time between teaching the 4/5 class with Ali Smith, undertaking the REC role as well as supporting the learning here at Mary MacKillop Memorial School.

I sincerely look forward to meeting as many of you as I can in the coming weeks.

Sam Baxter

Welcome Fr Dev

I would like to officially welcome Father Dev as the Parish Priest of St Joseph's parish here in Penola. Fr Dev joined us over the Christmas break. We look forward to getting to know Fr Dev as a school in the coming weeks.



LITURGIES AND MASSES FOR TERM ONE

All Liturgies and Mass times TBC.

More information regarding these times will be communicated through classroom teachers and in subsequent newsletters. We thank you for your patience in this.

Important Upcoming Dates:

1st March: Shrove Tuesday

2nd March: Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)

PENOLA PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Dev

**SUNDAY 13TH FEBRUARY:
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Gospel: Luke 6: 17, 20-26

SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday this year will be celebrated on the 1st of March. This day is often referred to as 'pancake day' or 'Fat Tuesday'. But what is the origin of Shrove Tuesday and why do we eat pancakes?

Shrove Tuesday is always celebrated on the Tuesday prior to Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent). Traditionally Lent was time where Catholics fasted on rich and fatty foods, such as eggs, milk and sugar. This presented an opportunity for people to use up these items prior to Lent beginning, starting a tradition that has lasted until this very day.

We will celebrate Shrove Tuesday as a school on the 1st of March (Week 5).



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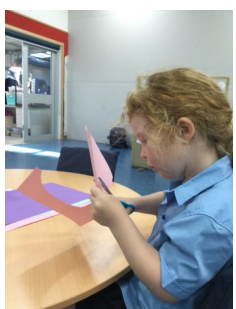
photo gallery



REMOTE LEARNING



**RECEPTION AND
YEAR 1 ART**



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



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