

# Newsletter

## Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Term 3 Week 4

Friday, 16th August 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](http://www.mmms.catholic.edu.au)



*go on with strength  
and courage*

### UPCOMING DATES

- August -

- 19 Early Learning
- 20 Early Learning  
YELP Naracoorte  
TWC 2024 Year 7 Subject  
Finalisation (4:30pm - 5:30pm)
- 21 Dress Up Day  
Book Week Parade  
School Board Meeting (6:00pm)
- 23 Playgroup  
Yr 4 Assembly  
SAPSASA Regional Golf Day  
(Naracoorte)
- 26 Early Learning
- 27 Early Learning  
5/6 Class Mass (9:15am)
- 28 Paperboat Theatre (R - 3)  
PPS
- 29 District Basketball day (Mount  
Gambier)
- 30 Playgroup  
Father's Day/Special Person  
Breakfast  
Yr 2/3 Assembly

- September -

- 2 Early Learning
- 3 Early Learning  
Footy Colours Day
- 6 **STUDENT FREE DAY**  
Staff Retreat Day
- 9 Early Learning  
Finance Meeting
- 10 Early Learning

## Class News

### Year R/1

Over the past few weeks, the Reception and Year One Class have been participating in Mathematics lessons with Miss Taylor, a fourth-year Education student at the University of South Australia currently completing her final placement at MMMS. Miss Taylor has been teaching the students how to compare and order lengths and measure using informal units. Through fun, play-based activities, she has helped the class flourish in their measurement skills!



**RAISING HEARTS  
AND MINDS**

*go on with strength and courage*

# from the principal

Dear Families and Friends of Mary MacKillop Memorial School,

This past fortnight we have celebrated two major feast days within the Church calendar. Last Thursday we celebrated the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and this week we had a Mass for the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. As always gathering in the church, as part of the wider community, is always an uplifting way to begin the day.

On the 8th August our celebration of our founder, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, was a day of special activities. We began with a whole school Mass led by Fr Olek with the support of our students. We were very lucky to have Andrew Chinn, singer and songwriter, with us for the day. He provided live music at the Mass and was accompanied by our school choir. There were many people who were at the Mass, and it gave us all a chance to reflect on St Mary MacKillop and what her values were and still are today. We welcomed students from Tenison Woods College, Mount Gambier, who assisted in helping us to celebrate. After Mass we went back to school to learn more about the life of Mary MacKillop. All students participated in a visit to the Interpretative Centre with Sr Loreto, a music workshop with Andrew Chinn and an art workshop with Miss Lusty, making little Marys from corks.

A special thankyou to Sr Loreto, Marie and the staff at the Interpretative Centre for welcoming us and showing us around. This was a wonderful rich experience for all students.

At lunch we were treated to a shared BBQ lunch, cooked by our fantastic school parents. The day ended with a concert, led by Andrew Chinn.

The day will be forever in the memories of all children and staff as one very special day!

## CEESA Living, Learning, Leading Survey

Thankyou to the families that have already completed the Living, Learning, Leading survey. This survey will remain open to parents and families until the 23rd of August. Please know that your feedback is valued and important for continued improvement for our school.

To administer the LLL Parent and Caregiver Survey at Mary MacKillop Memorial School, Penola in 2024: Parents go to [www.NSIPartnerships.com.au](http://www.NSIPartnerships.com.au) and enter the code MMMSPLLL in the 'Start Questionnaire' field



**LLL Parent and Caregiver Survey**  
(Available from 22 July to 23 August 2024)

## Requested Learning Conversations

In Week 4 and 5 teachers will be requesting learning conversations with some families to follow up with some specified learning goals for students and to communicate progress and to set new learning goals. The meeting times and requests will be managed by the classroom teacher.

Should you wish to request a time to meet with your child's classroom teacher in Week 4 or 5, please contact them directly.

go on with strength and courage

# *from the principal*

## *Open Week*

During Week 5 all schools in Catholic Education are celebrating Catholic Schools Open Week (and Book Week!). Throughout this week schools will open their doors and provide extra tours, open days, and special events to showcase the excellence of their schools. We, here at Mary MacKillop Memorial School, have some exciting things planned to showcase our fabulous school. Please see below for a list of what we will be offering.

- Free Come and Try Early Years Program for 3 - 5 year olds on Monday 19th August - all day. Come for an hour - stay for the day!
- Come and Play at Playgroup on Friday 23rd of August
- School Tours for new prospective families: Tuesday 20th August at 9:30am and Twilight Tours Thursday 22nd August 5:30pm

## *Welcome to the Mary Mac Community*

We extend our big welcome to our new families, the Auld, Hayward and Dunn families. We are excited to be in partnership with the learning journeys for Teddie, Poppy, Flynn and Aayla!

Wishing all families, a fantastic weekend.

God bless,

Nicole.

*go on with strength and courage*

# Catholic Identity

## Feast of the Assumption

The Assumption of Mary is significant event and belief in the Catholic Church. It refers to the moment when Mary, Mother of Jesus, was taken into heaven at the end of her earthly life. Unlike the usual process of the soul going to heaven after death, the Assumption teaches that Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven. This belief underscores her special role in salvation history and her close connection to Jesus.

The Feast of the Assumption, celebrated on August 15th, honours this event. It's a day of great importance in the Church, especially in countries like Australia where it's one of the two 'holy days of obligation' alongside Christmas. This means that Catholics are expected to attend Mass on these days.

The day also serves as a reminder of Mary's ongoing spiritual presence and her role as an intercessor. Catholics believe that because Mary is in heaven with God, she is always available to hear their prayers and intercede on their behalf, This is reflected in the prayer "Hail Mary," where the faithful ask Mary to "pray for us."

**HAVE YOU EVER  
WONDERED WHY...**

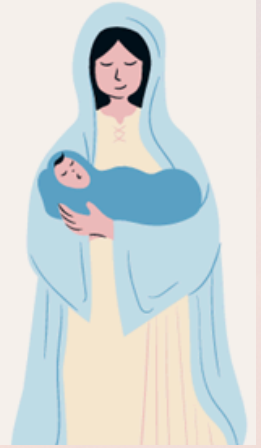
Mary is important to  
Catholics?



Mary is the mother of Jesus.  
She loved and cared for him  
throughout his life.  
People pray to Mary for God's  
help.

## Hail Mary.

full of grace,  
The Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among  
women,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our  
death.



## Masses and Liturgies for Term 3 & 4

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

WEEK 6 Tuesday 27th August  
5/7 Class Mass at 9:15am

WEEK 8 Tuesday 10th September  
R/1 Liturgy at 10:30am

WEEK 9 Tuesday 17th September  
Year 4 Class Mass

## Penola Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Zwaans

SUNDAY 18th August at 2:00pm in  
Kalangadoo  
TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
GOSPEL: JOHN 6:51 - 58

SUNDAY 25th August at 9:00am  
TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY  
TIME  
GOSPEL: JOHN 6:60 -69

# Community News

## House Points

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Cameron         | 368 |
| McCormack       | 403 |
| Woods MacKillop | 378 |

## Text Absentee Number New Phone 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.

**0488 280 711**

## Flourishing Awards

Today we congratulated 9 students who achieved Flourishing Awards at Assembly. Well done to Jensen, Lilly, Milly, Louis, Oscar, Harry, Mika, Robert, and Levi.



## Early Learning

Is your child 3, 4 or 5 years old and not at school yet? Our Early Learning Program is an opportunity for them to become familiar with the environment and how it operates. Hands-on structured learning experiences guided by the Early Years Learning Framework assist young children to explore and gain independence to prepare them for the future! We are excited to announce that we are now offering our Early Learning Program on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Children make many friends in these sessions. Enquiries welcome to learn more.

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.

## 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.

Call the school today to secure your child's spot next week. Seven is our current capacity, and we have recently been at that number.

## Playgroup

Our community Playgroup takes place on a Friday morning from 9:30 am - 11:00 am. It is an opportunity for families to come together and play together, capably coordinated by our Playgroup coordinator Ebonie Moulton. Come and enjoy a cuppa and catch up, while your child has a number of playful learning activities to explore in a safe and welcoming environment.

# Community News

## Counsellor's Corner

It's Bullying No Way Week this week, I wanted to provide some tips on how to help your child if they are being bullied at school, or at activities out of school. If your child is being bullied it's tough for the whole family supporting them through it, here are some tips to assist.

- **Listen and Support:** Encourage them to talk, reassure them it's not their fault, and take their concerns seriously.
- **Gather Details:** Find out what's happening, who's involved, and document incidents.
- **Contact the School:** Report the bullying to the school, and ensure they take action.
- **Work Together:** Collaborate with the school to create a safety plan for your child.
- **Build Confidence:** Encourage activities that boost self-esteem and teach assertiveness.
- **Address Cyberbullying:** Report online bullying, use safety tools, and consider legal advice if necessary.
- **Seek Help:** Consider counselling, contact helplines like Kids Helpline, or get legal support if needed.
- **Educate:** Teach your child about bullying and how to respond.
- **Monitor:** Stay involved to ensure the bullying doesn't continue.
- **Take Care of Yourself:** Seek support if you're feeling stressed.

Our staff are here to assist if you are worried your child is being bullied. There are also great websites out there such as [bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au) and [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au), that provide tips and support.

KIDS HELPLINE AUS: **1800 55 1800** (24 hours a day)

BULLYING NO WAY!!

## School Jackets

Should you wish to order a school jacket for your child, please contact Janice at the front office. The turn around time from ordering to delivery is approximately 3 weeks.

## Book Week

Book Week is coming up next week from Monday to Friday with the theme being Reading is Magic. The dress up day will be on Wednesday, with a parade first thing in the morning at 9:00am. All welcome.

The Book Fair will be open for two sessions, 8:30 - 8:45am and 3:10 - 3:30pm in the School Hall. The fair will NOT be open during school time. Cash and Eftpos payments will both be available.

The students will be engaged in a number of activities during the week, highlighting the wonderful shortlisted books for 2024.

We will also celebrate a PJ, milo and reading evening on Tuesday at 5:00pm.



# Community News

## Bullying

### Important conversations to have with your child.

Mary MacKillop Memorial School is participating in the Bullying No Way: National week of action 12th - 16th August 2024.

By working collaboratively within our community, we can collectively help reduce bullying.

Parents and carers play an important role in helping your child understand bullying, and know how to respond to it.

If your child tells you about things at school, or you observe something in public that involves conflict or bullying, take the opportunity to talk about what bullying is. You can learn more about what defines bullying at [bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au)

### Questions you could ask:

- What do you think bullying is?
- Have you seen it? How did you feel?
- Have you ever felt scared at school because of bullying?
- As well as me, who are the other adults you would talk to when it comes to bullying? Why or why not?
- Have you or your friends left other kids out on purpose? Do you think that was bullying? Why or why not?
- Have you ever tried to help someone who is being bullied? What happened? What would you do if it happens again?

Remind your child that bullying is never ok and discuss how they can respond safely if they experience or witness it.

Encourage them to seek help from a trusted adult and keep seeking support if needed.

By promoting open communication, we empower children to stand up against bullying and create a safer environment where everyone can feel that they belong. For more information, visit [bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au)

## School Bus

Families of bus students please note the following important points.

- If your family will be away for an extended period during the term time and your child(ren) will not be travelling on their normal bus route, please make sure you notify the bus driver of the dates your child will be absent so the bus is not waiting at your stop unnecessarily.
- As courtesy, please keep your bus driver informed if your child(ren) will not be travelling on the bus in the afternoon if they are attending after school commitments or the morning run if they are absent due to illness ect
- Parents are reminded to please be at your stop at least 5 minutes before your allocated pick up time in the morning so that buses are not kept waiting and the timetable can run to time. Drivers are not obligated to wait for students in the morning if they are not at their stop at their designated time.

## Lunch Orders On Tuesdays

A reminder that we are now offering Lunch Orders on Tuesdays. Orders need to be in Monday at school by 11am.

# Community News

## Sport

This week, Chloe, Juliet, Ben, and Josh competed for the Mid South East teams at the SAPSASA Soccer State Carnival. Chloe, our pocket rocket, demonstrated her impressive skill set across various positions, including goalie. Juliet showcased her exceptional defensive abilities and sharp play-reading skills.

Josh impressed everyone with his versatility and knack for rising to challenges, while Ben shone brightly in every role the coach assigned, even stepping up as goalie.

The students thrived under expert coaching and relished the high level of competition. Yet, the true highlight was the chance to forge new friendships and experience strong team camaraderie.





# Community News

PENOLA TENNIS CLUB PRESENTS

## TERM 3 JUNIOR TENNIS

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS

AGES 8 - 16 Y.O.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

- 1 HOUR TRAINING SESSION
- QUALIFIED TENNIS COACH  
TAEGAN WHITE
- GROUP SESSIONS

14TH AUGUST - 25TH SEPT

4.30-5.30PM  
5.30-6.30PM  
6.30-7.30PM

**\$90/CHILD INCLUDES 6 SESSIONS**

TO BOOK CONTACT  
LIZ RYMILL 0401 854 638





## Growing Resilient Kids Program

Facilitators  
Gez Waller & Ellie Stokes

**Smiles ALL ROUND**

We are offering our parent and child program which has been developed by our Senior Psychologist. This program is aimed at up-skilling primary school aged children in the following areas:

- Learning the brain science behind emotions.
- Learning about the purpose of anxiety and stress (it's not all bad!).
- Increasing understanding of how feelings (e.g. anxiety, stress) impact our thoughts and body (physiology).
- Learning ways to recognise, accept and/or manage unpleasant thoughts and feelings.
- Learning ways to improve coping abilities and ways to persist through challenging moments and feelings (e.g. anxiety, overwhelm, frustration, disappointment).

For students aged between 8 to 12 years

Final acceptance to the program will be determined by the Smiles All Round team.

Comminces - Term 3, Tuesday 13th August to 10th September (4-5pm)

Smiles All Round HQ  
223 Smith Street, Naracoorte

\$500 per family - 1 caregiver & 1 child

Register your interest by 31st July via  
admin@smilesallround.com.au

For more information:  
0430 022 705  
admin@smilesallround.com.au

standlikestone  
Penola Coonawarra Wellbeing Sub Fund

# COONAWARRA

## FRIDAY 23 AUGUST 7.00PM

When Maka and Veni fail in getting tickets for the most important game of their lives, they decide to form a traditional Tongan marching band, just so they can go to the game. No one in their band of misfits knows anything about marching and they practice using plastic bottles and tin cans for instruments. It is a complete shambles and if they can't get their act together, they will embarrass their entire Tongan community in front of the world.

MARY MACKILLOP PENOLA

## Breakfast Club



Do you come on the bus? No time for breakfast at home?

COME TO BREAKFAST CLUB SUPPORTED BY FOODBANK.

Breakfast Club operates every morning between 8.30am - 8.45am in the Woods Learning Centre.



FROM THE PRODUCERS OF HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE | THE BREAKER UPPERERS



## Red, White and Brass

STRAIGHT MĀFANA, GO WITH YOUR HEART

COONAWARRA HALL, 11 MEMORIAL DRIVE

TICKETS: \$10 ADULT, \$5 CHILDREN - AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

PG

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

# STRONGER FAMILIES: A POSITIVE PARENTING CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY



**Catholic  
School  
Parents**  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## OUR SPEAKERS



MAGGIE DENT

HELP ME  
HELP MY TEEN



PAUL DILLON

TEENS, PARTIES,  
ALCOHOL AND VAPES.  
WHAT DO PARENTS  
NEED TO KNOW?



MADHAVI  
NAWANA PARKER

BEING CALM IN  
THE EYE OF A  
PARENTING STORM

THE SANCTUARY  
ADELAIDE ZOO  
1 PLANE TREE DRIVE

SATURDAY  
AUGUST 31

9AM  
REGISTRATION  
9.30AM TO 3PM

\$25 + Booking Fee per person. Light lunch included

Tickets available at Humanitix

[www.events.humanitix.com/stronger-families-conference](http://www.events.humanitix.com/stronger-families-conference)

[cspsa.catholic.edu.au/events](http://cspsa.catholic.edu.au/events)



# photo gallery

## Mary MacKillop Feast Day



@marymackillopmemorial



Mary MacKillop Memorial School



Class updates on Seesaw



# photo gallery

## Science Week



@marymackillopmemorial



Mary MacKillop Memorial School



Class updates on Seesaw