



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

Thank you so very much for the warm welcome I have received since my arrival here. I have met many of you over this week but looking forward to catching up with all of our families over the year ahead. This welcome is very much the lived expression of St Mary MacKillop's teachings.



Did you realise how dedicated and organised your children's teachers are?

One of the first impressions that have been made on me is the outstanding quality of the teachers who are working with your children. Their commitment to working professionally and compassionately with the children at St Mary MacKillop, has been obvious to me. Whilst we have been on holidays the work of the teachers and leaders has continued which ensures that they are ready for your child's first day at school.

If you agree with me, why not take the chance to let them know you appreciate it when you see them next?

Attendance is the key to your child's success!!!

Throughout this year I will be raising the importance of children being **at school** and **on time** every day. It makes sense that for your child to succeed at school and continue to build on their learning, they need to be in the classroom.

Please be aware that current legislation requires that any absence from school other than due to

illness, needs to be approved by the school principal. If you are seeking leave for your child, please apply in writing through the school office.

Have you seen the face of Jesus at St Mary MacKillop?

I believe that one of the most important reasons for Catholic schools to exist in our community is to provide everyone (students, staff, parents, families and community), with daily encounters with Jesus.

- At times I can see Jesus in myself because of how I have chosen to behave and act.
- At times I can see Jesus in how others act around me..... particularly if they act through love towards me.
- At times I can see Jesus in the scripture shared from the bible at school.
- At times I can see Jesus in my prayers.

As a parent of two children myself, I choose Catholic Education for them because I want them to have the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ in their lives. I am passionate about it for your child too.

Together We Grow.

Mr Scott Buchan
 Principal

**You miss
 100%
 of the shots
 you don't take.**
 - Wayne Gretzky

News from the Assistant Principal

Welcome back. I am very exciting to start my new role at St Mary MacKillop as Assistant Principal and I look forward to working with you and your children this year.

Maths Assessment Interviews (MAI)

Thank you to the parents who have brought their children to school out of school hours to sit the MAI. This data serves as a valuable teaching tool to enable targeted, personalised learning for every student.

Early Years Assessment (EYA)

Over the next few weeks our students in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two will participate in an Observation Survey of Early Literacy. These assessment inform the teachers and enables them to plan the teaching and learning experiences for our Infants classes. The assessments also help the school to identify vulnerable students for targeted intervention programs.

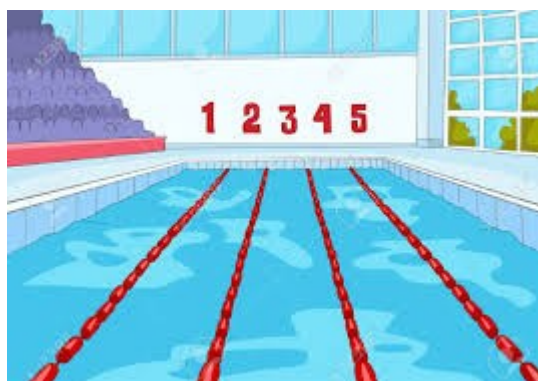
If you need to contact me please phone the office or by my email,
mrowan2@parra.catholic.edu.au

Margaret Rowan
Assistant Principal

Sport News

The 2017 Twilight Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 7th February at 5:00pm at St Marys Ripples. (Charles Hackett Drive.) The carnival is optional and open to ALL Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students, as well as any competent 8 year old swimmers in Year 2. We ask that you return the form indicating the event your child would like to participate in by Monday 6th February at the very latest. There will be no 25m events at the carnival. Student's are required to make their own way to and from the pool. Student entry is free, however parents will have to pay a \$3 entry fee. If you would like to volunteer to help as a timekeeper on the night (and receive free entry into the pool), please indicate so on the form.

Maryanne McNally
Sport Co Ordinator



Religious Education News

Welcome to the 2017 school year. This time of year is always filled with mystery and excitement. Mystery because what the year ahead holds for us is unknown, and excitement because we can be assured that throughout each moment of this year God will be with us.

Father,

We thank you for the opportunity to begin this new school year,

and we ask that you bless the students, teachers and families that make our school a great place.

We pray that you will guide us in your ways,

so that we will seek your will

in everything that we do,

and love others as you love us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Class Prayer Bags

Prayer is an important part of the life of a Catholic school and this year the St Mary MacKillop School community will once again embrace the concept of a class Prayer Bag, which will begin being sent home in the coming week. This Prayer Bag offers a link between home and school through prayer. We hope that when your child brings home this bag that you will gather together as a family, and use the contents of the prayer bag to pray together. We also invite you, as a family, with your child to write a prayer in the prayer journal.

The prayer written by your child will become part of the class prayer during the week.

The Prayer Bag consists of:

- A cloth
- St Mary MacKillop Prayer card
- Prayer book
- Student Prayer Journal
- A battery operated tea light (please ensure that this is switched off)
- Prayer card: Our Father and Hail Mary (**Kinder only**)
- Prayer card: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be and Angel of God (**Yrs 1-4**)
- Rosary Beads and how to pray the rosary prayer card (**Yrs 3-6 only**)
- A copy of The Angelus (**Yrs 3-6 only**)
- God is With Us - A prayer book for Families (**Yrs 4-6 only**)



The Prayer Bag is a very special and sacred bag. We know that you, with your child, will take care of it and see that it is *completely and safely* returned to school to ensure every child is given the same prayerful opportunity. Thank you for joining with the St Mary MacKillop Community in prayer.

2017 Sacramental Program - Reconciliation Parent Meeting, 7pm Tues 28th Feb

The Parish based Sacramental Program will begin this year with the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance). Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will commence with a parent only session on Tuesday, 28th February at 7pm.

If you wish to enrol in this program it is compulsory that at least one parent/carer attend. This meeting will be held in the St Nicholas Church. This program is for all children in Year 3 or above who have been baptised and would like to enrol in the Sacramental Program.

All enquires to Colleen Nichols (Sacramental Coordinator) at St Nicholas Parish House 47212509.
Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au



Opening School Mass and Year Six Leadership Ceremony: 9:30am Friday 17th February

Please join us for our Opening School Mass on Friday 17th February at 9:30am. At our mass we will gather as a school community to pray for God's blessing on the school year and welcome our new staff, Kindergarten students and new students across the grades to St Mary MacKillop Primary School. We will also induct the Year 6 students into their 2017 leadership roles.

We Look forward to seeing you as we celebrate our Catholic Faith together.

Mrs Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

There will be no school assembly this week. Assembly will commence next Friday at 2.20pm

Recycled Uniform Shop

Our Second Hand Uniform shop will now be called the Recycled Uniform Shop. The Recycled Uniform shop will be open each month 2pm to 3.15pm and will commence Friday 3rd February 2017.

All girls Summer dresses and Winter tunics \$5-

Bags \$5-

All other items \$3-

If you have any uniforms that you no longer require could you please leave them at the office.

Thank you,
Joanne Randall

Sports Days 2017	
Monday	Year 2
Wednesday	Year 6 , Year 5
Thursday	Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 4
Friday	Year 3

Did you know....

All our newsletters will be distributed electronically for the remainder of the year. You can keep up to date via our Facebook page www.facebook.com/MacKillopPenrith via our SkoolBag App and our school website.

Subscribe to the Online Newsletter:

A reminder to all parents that we will no longer be printing a paper copy of the newsletter.

Parents need to subscribe to receiving the newsletter online via the website.

You will need to go to www.mackillopenrith.catholic.edu.au

select News & Events>Newsletter and click on

Subscribe to our online newsletter, complete the form, you will then receive the newsletter each fortnight via

The screenshot shows the school's website with a navigation menu on the left: SCHOOL, PARENTS, LEARNING & TEACHING, NEWS & EVENTS, and CONTACT US. The main content area is titled 'Newsletters' and includes a search bar, a description of the 'KT (Keeping in Touch)' newsletter, and a 'Subscribe to our online newsletter' form. A 'Current Issue' section highlights 'Term 3 Week 8 4 September 2014'. An 'Archive' section lists years from 2014 to 2011. On the right, there are 'Related Links' and an 'E-News Subscription' section.

P & F News

A very warm welcome to our families both new and established. We hope you all had an enjoyable holiday and your families are settling in their new routines.

P&F Survey

An online survey has been organised by the P&F and will be available through the School Facebook page soon.

We would like to know your thoughts on the 2016 events and what you are interested in for the future.

Erin Carroll
P&F President

After School Drama

@

St Mary MacKillop School Hall

Wednesdays

@ 3.15pm INFANTS KIDS (K-YR2)

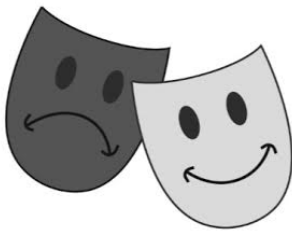
@ 4.15pm PRIMARY KIDS (YR3-6)

Limited Vacancies! Get in quickly!

www.kidscanact.com.au

Mrs Cathie Parkes:- 0414 475 158

ENQUIRIES and ENROLMENTS to be completed through the website above or call Cathie. NOT the school office.



Supervision available from 3.00pm on the verandah.

The children sit and eat a snack and go to the toilet.

INFANTS KIDS Class starts at **3.15pm** (1 hour)

PRIMARY KIDS class begins at **4.15pm** (1 hour)

Supervision available from 3.00pm for PRIMARY KIDS
till 4.15pm upon request. (Conditions apply)

HIGH SCHOOL KIDS Class at 5.45pm **WEDNESDAY** @ South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre

MIXED AGES GROUP Class at 3.30pm **THURSDAYS** @ South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre

Mrs Cathie Parkes taught for 8 years at St Mary MacKillop in a part time capacity.

Mrs Cathie Parkes:- 0414 475 158

www.kidscanact.com.au

Dates for Your Diary Term 1—2017

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday	7 February	5pm-7pm	Twilight Swimming Carnival Ripples St Marys
Friday	10 February	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly
Friday	17 February	9:30am 2:20pm	Opening School Mass & Year 6 Leadership Ceremony Whole School Assembly
Tuesday	28 February	7:00pm	Parent Meeting for Reconciliation (St Nicholas Church)
Thursday	2 March	11:30am	Year 5 Graffiti Talk



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
Summer Reading Challenge

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of **four iPad minis**

Enter online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au
Entries close 7 February 2017

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
Teachers Mutual Bank
We put you first

2017

SCHOOL CANTEEN ST MARY MACKILLOP

HOME-MADE TREATS

Me's Banana Bread	\$2.00 G
Me's Fruit Muffins	\$1.50 G

ORDER YOUR LUNCH ONLINE

www.flexischools.com.au

DRINKS

99% Juice Popper	\$2.00 G
Apple, Orange, Apple & Blackcurrant	
Spring Water 330ml	\$1.50 G
Spring Water 600ml	\$2.00 G
Oak Flavoured Milk 300ml	\$2.50 G
Chocolate, Strawberry, Vanilla Malt	
Quench Mineral Water 330ml	\$2.50 G
Apple Raspberry, Lemon Lime, Orange, Lemonade	
Milkshakes	\$3.00 A
Chocolate, Strawberry, Caramel	

FRESH FRUIT & TASTY BITES

Fresh Seasonal Fruit	\$1.00 G
Apple, Orange, Banana	
Watermelon Cup	\$1.50 G
Mixed Fruit Cup	\$2.00 G
Yoghurt & Fruit Bowl	\$1.50 G
Custard Bowl	\$1.50 G
Grapes & Custard Bowl	\$2.00 G
Jelly Bowl	\$1.20 A
Jelly & Custard	\$2.00 A
Red Rock Deli Chips & Smiths	\$2.00 A
Honey & Soy, Sea Salt, Salt & Vinegar	
Mamee, Cornitos & Rice Sticks	\$2.00 A

BIRTHDAYS - CUPCAKES OR ICE-CLOCK BUCKETS - ENQUIRE WITHIN CANTEEN

CRUNCH & SIP



*Available Before 9am **\$2.00**

Bottle of Water 350ml plus a choice of a Apple, Banana or Orange



Mel's Tasty Bites

Healthy Canteen Operators & Catering Services

SANDWICHES

Rolls & Wraps	Extra \$0.50
Gluten Free - Sliced	Extra \$1.00
Cheese	\$2.50 G
Cheese & Tomato	\$2.80 G
Salad	\$3.50 G
Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$3.60 G
Chicken & Salad	\$4.00 G
Egg, Lettuce & Mayo	\$3.50 G
Tuna & Lettuce	\$3.50 G
Vegemite, Jam or Honey	\$2.20 G

SUPER SALAD BOXES

Greekumbar	\$5.00 G
Tomato, Cucumber, Spanish onion, Pitted Olives, Greek Feta	
Chicken Caesar Pleaser	\$5.00 G
Grilled Chicken, Cos Lettuce, Egg, Cheese, Croutons	
Chicken Buster	\$5.00 G
Grilled Chicken, Tabouli & Hummus	
Secret Garden	\$5.00 G
Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Spanish onion	
Finding Nemo	\$5.00 G
Lettuce, Tomato, Spanish Onion, Tuna	

EXTRAS

Avocado	\$0.80 G
Boiled Egg	\$0.80 G
Tabouli	\$1.00 G
Hummus	\$1.00 G
Lite Ham	\$1.00 G
Grilled Chicken	\$1.00 G
Lunch Bag	\$0.20
Spoon/Fork	\$0.30
Sauce Portions	\$0.30

BURGERS, ROLLS & WRAPS

Grilled Chicken Burger	\$4.20 G
Fish Burger	\$4.20 G
Chicken Schnitzel Roll	\$4.20 G
Cheeseburger	\$4.20 G
Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap	\$4.20 G

OLD FAVOURITES

Chicken Breast Nuggets	\$0.80 A
Baked Fish & Wedges	\$4.00 A
Garlic Bread Roll	\$2.50 G
Chicken Noodles	\$3.20 G
Beef Noodles	\$3.20 G

FROZEN TREATS

Juice Cups	\$2.00 G
Zooper Dooper	\$1.00 A
Frozen Yoghurt	\$1.50 G
Home Ice-Cream	\$1.50 A

MONDAY TO FRIDAY SPECIALS

MONDAY

Chicken Fried Rice \$4.00 G

Fresh Vegetables & egg tossed with steamed rice
With a hint of soy sauce & real chicken breast

WEDNESDAY

Pasta \$4.50 G

Penne Bolognese

Premium mince cooked with Italian sauce &
herbs and tossed with penne pasta

TUESDAY

Beef & Bean Nachos \$4.50 G

Toasted Corn Chips, Seasoned beef & beans, lettuce, tomato,
smashed avocado, Sour Cream & Cheese

THURSDAY

Home-made Pizza \$4.00 G

Margherita - cheese & tomato

Hawaiian - pineapple, Lite ham & extra cheese

BBQ Chicken - seasoned chicken, Spanish onion, capsicum & bbq sauce

Cheesy Garlic Pizza - Garlic & Extra Cheese

FRIDAYS

Hot Dog w/ Sauce \$3.70 A

Party Pie \$1.00 A

* Please note - Salad boxes &
Burgers are not available on
Fridays...

HEALTHY FOOD GUIDELINES
G GREEN / A AMBER / R RED



2017 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials

Any Primary students enrolled in Parramatta Diocesan Schools in Year 5 and 6 in 2017 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four of 2016 (Summer Sports - Basketball, Cricket, Softball & Tennis) and Term One/Two in 2017 (Winter Sports - AFL, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League League, Rugby Union & Touch).

It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2017 be invited to attend.

Parramatta Diocesan trials in 2017 will be held in the following sports:

*AFL (boys), Diving (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Football (B&G), Golf (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Netball (girls), Rugby League (11yrs & Opens), Rugby Union (boys), & Touch(B&G).

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website

www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au. This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2017 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. You may complete this form to attend a selection trial or if you have been selected in a representative squad or team. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST** be approved by your child's school. In order for your child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of your school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. **Please complete all fields and especially "Representative Experience"**.

Please ensure that the **SUBMIT** button has been pressed upon completing the form and notification email will be sent to the parent/guardian listed on the form confirming this expression of interest has been received.

Your child's school will notify you one week prior to the trial date if your child is to attend to the Parramatta Diocesan trial for their selected sport by providing a trial information sheet.

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

Summer Sports Registrations close Friday 28th October 5pm.
Winter Sports Registrations close Friday 3rd February 5pm.

Please contact your school sports coordinator for any further information.

Yours In Sport,
Margaret Thornton
Teaching Educator – Primary Sport
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

2017 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER INFORMATION