



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop Primary School,

NAPLAN

Earlier in May this year all students in Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program - Literacy And Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of this test is to provide information to parents and teachers about the achievements of students in aspects of Literacy and Numeracy. The tests provide a measure of the children's performance against established standards and against other students in Australia. The Commonwealth Government sets minimum acceptable standards for numeracy, reading, writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling at each grade. These are referred to as the national minimum standards. Band 2 is the minimum standard for Year 3 and band 4 is the minimum for Year 5. The percentages of students achieving at or above these national minimum standards and the percentages of students in the top three bands are displayed in the table below.

	% of children at or above national standards		% of children in the top three bands	
	SMMK School	Australia	SMMK	Australia
Year 3				
Numeracy	100.0	96.8	81.5	65.9
Reading	100.0	95.1	78.5	72.2
Writing	98.5	96.6	92.4	70.3
Grammar and Punctuation	100.0	96.2	86.2	75.2
Spelling	98.5	96.6	87.7	73.6
Year 5				
Numeracy	94.1	94.9	78.4	58.3
Reading	98.0	94.6	72.5	60.9
Writing	94.1	92.2	49.0	45.9
Grammar and Punctuation	98.0	94.3	76.5	66.0
Spelling	98.0	94.8	74.5	68.4

As we draw to the end of Term 3, we are pleased to present the success of our NAPLAN results this year, which shows St Mary MacKillop School average above the National average in all areas assessed in NAPLAN in Year 3 and Year 5. Early next term the staff will continue to analyse the NAPLAN data in order to explore ways that we can further enhance the learning opportunities for each student.

St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church - 1839-2014

As you know this year we have been celebrating the 175th Anniversary of our Parish. This week I invite you to pray as a family the Jubilee Prayer for the 175th Anniversary of St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith

Father of infinite grace,

One hundred and seventy five year ago our ancestors built our parish church to your greater glory and honour.

In this time this sacred temple has stood as a witness to the Catholic Faith

And as a living testimony of the Gospel.

*We remember with gratitude, countless many, those living and those now in glory,
 who established and fostered our Parish Faith Community.*

*Grant that we may live this year of Jubilee, celebrating and renewing your call to us,
 each as one, and as families in Christ, to be a welcoming community for all;
 to worship together, to proclaim your word and to respond to human needs.*

*Through the intercession of Mary, Our Blessed Mother, St Nicholas, our Patron
 and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop who show us the path of living the Gospel.*

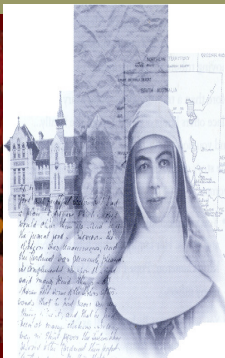
Help us to renew our faith, love and hope. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Welcome Back and a Huge Thank Your!

Next term we welcome back to St Mary MacKillop Mrs Kelly Gray who has been on maternity leave during 2014. Mrs Gray will return as a member of the leadership team, Stage 3 leader and learning support teacher. Sincere thanks goes to Mrs Bizzanelli who will be leaving SMMK this term and Mrs Meehan who has been Acting Coordinator during the past two and a half years. I would personally like to acknowledge the outstanding contribution that both Mrs Bizzanelli and Mrs Meehan have provided to St Mary MacKillop in their respective roles.

Have a Great Holiday

Mr Michael Sicilinao
 PRINCIPAL



The Sacrament of Confirmation:

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the final sacrament of the three Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Confirmation is a Sacrament of mature Christian commitment, perfects our Baptism and brings us the graces of the Holy Spirit that were granted to the Apostles on Pentecost Sunday.

Confirmation is the sacrament of maturity, coming of age and empowerment. It is administered by the Bishop through the laying-on of hands and anointing with chrism accompanied by prayer. During the Sacrament of Confirmation the Bishop calls down the Holy Spirit and the candidates receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which are: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgement, Wonder and we in God's presence, Courage, Knowledge and Reverence. The effect of the Sacrament of Confirmation is to give the strength to follow Jesus and to become involved in the mission which Jesus left to the Church. Congratulations to the following children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Tuesday 9th September.

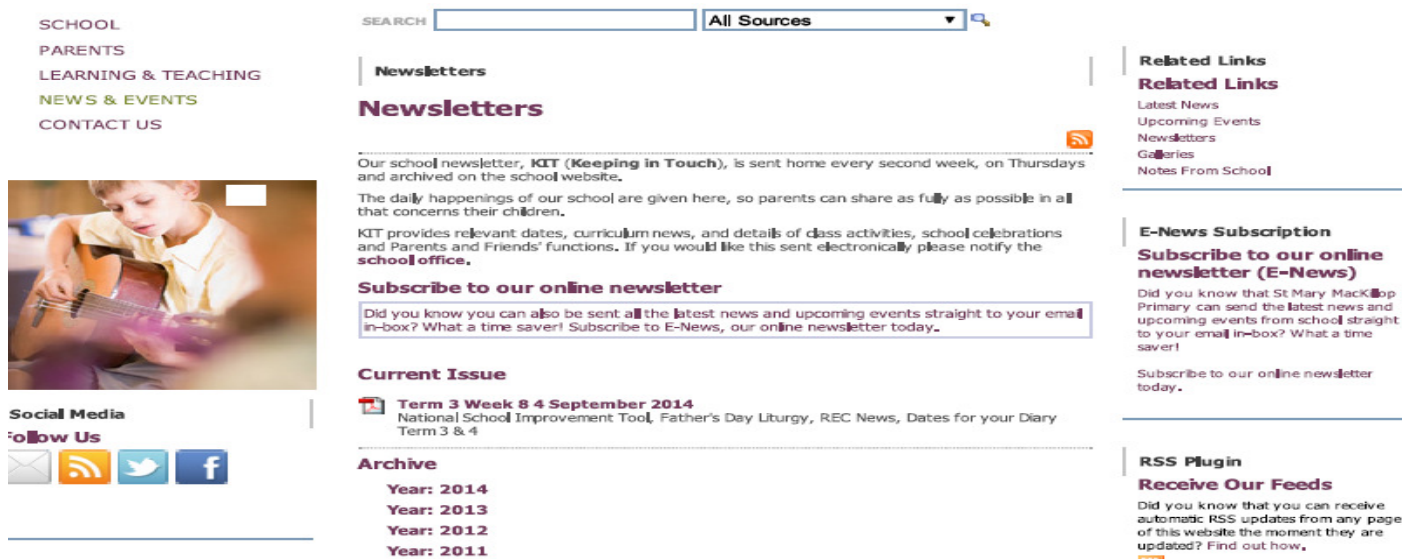
Corey A, Jack B, Thomas C, Declan C, Liam C, Isabelle C, Baxter C, Joel C, Caleb C, Tayla G, Elizabeth G, Sophie H, Joshua H, Azahlia J, Alicia L, Bailey Mc, Dylan Mc, Amelia P, Marco P, Hayden R, Patrick R, Bianca R, Maddison S, Bailey S, Lilly S, Lachlan S, Kailah S, Patrick S, Georgia T, Clayton T, Elissa T, Luke W and Nicola W

Mrs Leesa Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

Online Newsletter:

Next term we will be asking parents 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 email. You can also view the newsletter on the website under current issue.



The screenshot shows the St Mary MacKillop Primary website. On the left is a navigation menu with links: SCHOOL, PARENTS, LEARNING & TEACHING, NEWS & EVENTS (highlighted), and CONTACT US. Below this is a 'Social Media' section with icons for 'Follow Us' on YouTube, RSS, Twitter, and Facebook. The main content area is titled 'Newsletters' and describes the 'KIT (Keeping in Touch)' newsletter, which is sent every second week on Thursdays. It mentions that daily happenings are shared on the website and that the newsletter provides relevant dates, curriculum news, and details of class activities, school celebrations, and Parents' and Friends' functions. A call to action asks users to 'Subscribe to our online newsletter' and provides a link to the subscription form. Below this, the 'Current Issue' is listed as 'Term 3 Week 8 4 September 2014', including the National School Improvement Tool, Father's Day Liturgy, REC News, and Dates for your Diary. An 'Archive' section lists years from 2014 to 2011. On the right side, there are sections for 'Related Links' (Latest News, Upcoming Events, Newsletters, Galleries, Notes From School), 'E-News Subscription' (Subscribe to our online newsletter (E-News)), and an 'RSS Plugin' (Receive Our Feeds).

Not Returning to St Mary MacKillop Primary in 2015:

If your child (K-5) is not returning to St Mary MacKillop in 2015 we need this confirmed in writing as a term's notice must be given to enable us to plan our overall staffing and learning groups for next year. It will also assist us with enrolment enquiries we are receiving for next year.

MATHS OLYMPIAD

Answer to Question 5 - Week 8 Term 3:

How many two-digit whole numbers contain the digit 4?

Any number that begins with a 4 contains a 4. Therefore, each number from 40 through 49 contains the digit 4. There are 10 such numbers. Any number that ends in a 4 contains a 4. Therefore the numbers 14, 24, 34, 54, 64, 74, 84 and 94 contain a 4 (notice that 44 was already counted). There are 8 of these numbers. Thus the number of two-digit numbers that contain the digit 4 is $10 + 8 = 18$

National Literacy and Numeracy Week - Poetry Awards 2014

During National Literacy Week the children at St. Mary MacKillop were invited to write their own poem to share for "Poem in your pocket day". The children were then invited to submit their poem for judging and sharing with the school community. We were overwhelmed with the response with over 140 poems submitted for the competition! Huge congratulations to all the children who worked so hard: your poems were entertaining and interesting. All students who submitted a poem will have received a certificate of participation and below is a list of those students who received special awards.

Kindergarten: 1st - Darcy & Aaryan, 2nd - Rory & Cameron, 3rd - Emma C & Lizzy, Highly Commended - Hamish O.

Year 1: 1st - Vedh, 2nd - Sienna B & Georgia, 3rd - Samarah & Rafferti, Highly Commended - Tanae & Thomas F.

Year 2: 1st - Amelia, 2nd - Jack A, 3rd - Vashti, Highly Commended - Kate, Ava, Emily Walsh, Emily Fox, Emily McLean, Taylor T, Grace, Angelica, Ella, Jayden.

Year 3: 1st - Leah, 2nd - Daniel C, 3rd - Caroline, Highly Commended - Ace, Ella C, Liam, Keely, Ben, Zack, Jorja, Stefania, Chloe, Cheyenne, Isabella.

Year 4: 1st - Lachlan R, 2nd - Anna, 3rd - Jack S, Highly Commended - Cynthia, Jayde, Billy, Jedd, Scarlett, Lachlan H, Abbey, Lily, Stephanie, Oliver, Isaac.

Year 5: 1st - Cole, 2nd - Amelia, 3rd - Jack B, Highly Commended - Declan, Allen, Azahlia, Sophie, Pat, Hemish.

Year 6: 1st - Luke, 2nd - Bethany, 3rd - Cooper H, Highly Commended - Emma B, Sophie, Danny.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone for your support of NLNW,

Mrs Elizabeth Devlin

Parent Helpers - Thank You

Thank you so much to all of the parents who volunteered their time, and considerable energy, in leading groups at our Infants Tabloid Sports Carnival on Thursday 4 September. We greatly appreciate your efforts and the result was a very interactive and fun day!

Thank you to Mr Joe Warda (Connor Year 1), Mrs Natalie Borg (Marie KA), Mrs Kristi Cavanagh (Jake KD), Mrs Megan Geyer (Rafferti Year 1), Mrs Rosa McLean (Emily Year 2), Mrs Jane Pappas (Crystal Year 1), Mrs Lee Anderton (Jack Year 2), Mr & Mrs Randall (Rylee KD), Mrs Susie Jameson (Amy Year 2), Mr Will Thomas (Isaac KD), Ms Zammit (Jordon Nelson Year 2), Mrs Clarke (Brok KD), Mrs Moroney (Ciaran Year 1), Mrs Sykes (Tayla and Lachlan), Mrs Billington (Thomas Year 1) and Sean our work experience helper.

Mrs. Liz Devlin

Early Stage One and Stage One Coordinator

P & F News

FATHER'S DAY WRAPPING & MORNING TEA - THANK YOU: Thank you to all those beautiful generous parents that always walk into any event and say "What can I do to help?" You are wonderful and your expression of kindness in helping the P & F where help is needed, is always appreciated with all our heart. Our school is very honoured to have you as positive leading role models for our children. **THANK YOU** also to all the Year 5 and 6 families for supplying the delicious baked goodies. Bless you. Congratulations to all the students that won the Father's day hampers and a big hug goes out to all the **FATHERS FIGURES** in our school community. Thank you for being part of your children's life, your presence is monumental to all things good today and in the future, please **KNOW** that you are admired.

DANCE-A-THON WINNERS: Thank you to everyone that contributed to the Dance-a-thon. Due to your support we raised just over \$2,500. Great job everyone!!! And the winning grade of the Candy Hamper was **YEAR 2**. Congratulations to the following winners of the \$30 Dymocks Vouchers: Jet.G (Kindy), Anastacia.W (Yr 1), Grace.R (Yr 2), Abigail.F (Yr 3), Peter.S (Yr 4), Joshua.H (5M), Alexandra.D (Yr 6).

BARGAIN BUS BUYERS - SAVE THE DATE - 7 seats left: Don't forget to put it in your calendar **Saturday, 11 October 2014**. Please see the flyer for details on the school Facebook page or contact Fiona Bryant on fionaw@smartchat.com.au.

SCHOOL DISCO - SAVE THE DATE: Just a heads up that our student school disco this year will be taking place on Thursday, **23 October 2014**. Helpers are always appreciated at these events to ensure students are supervised whilst enjoying their evening.

SOUTHLANDS REWARDS PROGRAM - REMINDER Please don't forget to collect your receipts and place them in the box at the Southlands Shopping Centre with our school name on it. The rewards program ends on 23 September 2014. Thank you so much for your support.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE FAMILY FUN - 8 DECEMBER 2014 In the spirit of family fun at Christmas, we are looking at holding a *Gingerbread House* building night. It will be held on Monday 8 December from 5.30pm on the school premises. The order forms (available also on school website) with information were sent out early this week to all families. Orders with a \$5 deposit per KIT needs to be in by Friday, 19 September to book numbers for this fantastic event organised by our beautiful Mrs Billington, Mrs McGregor and Mrs Sykes. For more information, please contact Jadeat billio.mjte@gmail.com or Marissa at mccgregors25@live.com.au.

SUMMER IS NEAR- ZOOPER DOOPER TIME IN TERM 4 The roster will be finalised and distributed soon. Ice block sales should commence on Friday, 10 October in Term 4. Thank you to all those parents who volunteered to help out, as it would not be possible without you. Zooper Doopers will be sold at 60c for a whole and 30c for a half.

Be Safe, Be Happy and God Bless

Liz Whalen - On behalf of the P & F Executive Team

Dates for Your Diary Term 3 - 2014

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	19 September	9:15am	Kindergarten Liturgy - Term 3 Ends

Dates for Your Diary Term 4 - 2014

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday	7 October	8:45am	Students return for Term 4 Summer School Uniform
Monday	13 October	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Monday	20 October	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Tuesday	21 October		School Photos - Summer School Uniform
Thursday	23 October	6:00-7:00pm 7:15-8:30pm	P & F Disco Kindergarten-Year 2 Years 3-6
Friday	24 October	9:15am	Year 3 Liturgy
Monday	27 October	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Tuesday	28 October		Year 2 Penrith Lakes Excursion
Thursday	30 October		Year 5 Teen Ranch
Friday	31 October		Year 5 Teen Ranch
Monday	3 November	2:00pm	2015 Kindergarten Playgroup Session
Wednesday	5 November	9:00-11:00am	2015 Kindergarten Orientation Morning
Thursday & Friday	6 & 7 November		Year 6 Canberra Excursion
Friday	7 November	9:15am	Year 1 Grade Liturgy
Monday	10 November	2:05pm	5G Assembly
Tuesday	11 November	7:00pm 7:30pm	Parent Representative Meeting P&F General Meeting
Thursday	13 November	6:00pm	Year 5 Personal Development Information Night
Friday	14 November	9:15am	Year 4 Mass St Dominic's & Caroline Chisholm Year 6 Orientation
Monday	17 November	2:05pm	4H Assembly
Tuesday	18 November		Year 2 Botanical Gardens Excursion
Friday	28 November	TBA	Whole School Advent Mass

123 Magic Parenting Program

Learn how to understand and manage your child's difficult behaviour. Practical, easy to follow steps for disciplining children without the yelling, arguing or spanking. Suitable for children 2-12.

Venue: St Mary MacKillop Primary School, Fragar Rd., South Penrith (entry via staff car park)

When: Wednesday evenings, October 15, 22, 29, 6:00pm-8:00pm (Weeks 2-4, Term 4). It will be necessary to commit to the three sessions.

Presenters: Rebecca Gorbach (CEO), Jeanne Appleton (School Counsellor)

Bookings essential at the school office, by Thursday 9 October, 4736 3466. Please complete the slip below. Enquiries to Jeanne Appleton at the school office.

Parent Name: _____ Child's Name: _____