



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

Our school constantly strives to be:

A Christ centered community which challenges students to develop their unique gifts and talents through a supportive partnership of school, parents and parish.



How this year has flown.....they say time flies when you are having fun.

I cannot express deeply enough how grateful I am for the welcome and hospitality with which this community has taken me in this year. Sometimes we can forget that school principals are just people too and that joining a new community can be as daunting for the leader as it is for the kinder students.

Fortunately for me there has only been kindness and love, support and warmth from this entire community and I really do appreciate it. It is a marvellous Christmas present for me and for my family.

I sincerely hope that this Christmas season and school holiday break is a time of peace, relaxation and love for you all. Please keep safe and take good care of our kids and each other.

The fabulous team here (we really are blessed with such wonderful staff here), are looking forward to journeying with you and the children in 2018. Years 1-6 start full school days on Wednesday 31st January and Kindergarten start full school days on Thursday 1st February. We also need you to book in for a Maths Assessment Interview on the Monday or Tuesday of that week please.

Take care, thank you again for a truly memorable 2017 and I look forward to joining you again in 2018.

Together We Grow.

Mr Scott Buchan – Principal

Staffing News (Repeated from last edition)

It is that time of the year when we move towards finalising staffing for the new school year. Thank you for your patience as we organise our staffing for next year's class groups. In planning for the 2018 school year, please find below a list of staff and grades for 2018 as they currently stand.

2018 Staffing

Kindergarten	Mrs Claire Harman (KH) Miss Maryanne McNally (KM)	
Year 1	Miss Nicole Jones (1J) Mrs Maree Eisenhuth (1E)	
Year 2	Miss Natalie Franklin (2F)	Mrs Leesa Gillard (2G)
Year 3	Mrs Donna Fox (3F) Mr Darren McErlain (3M)	
Year 4	Mrs Leonie Mitchell (4M) Mrs Amanda Joseph (4J)	
Year 5	Mrs Ashlea Milgate (5M)	Mrs Rachel Paine / Mr Brad Carroll (5PC)
Year 6	Mrs Kimberley Mathewson (6K)	Mrs Margaret Meehan (6M)

Diversity Teachers (Learning Support):

Mrs Kelly Gray , Mrs Niamh MacDonald, Mrs Chris Laffan, Mrs Margaret Rowan

School Counsellor: Mrs Jeanne Appleton (Thursday)

RFF Teachers: Mrs Crystal Middleton (Physical Education) Mr Brad Carroll (Creative Arts)

Teacher Librarian: Mrs Maree Eisenhuth

Library Assistant: Mrs Marina Napoli

Teacher Assistants: Mrs Judy Inskip , Mrs Marina Napoli

Administration Office Mrs Christine Capolupo (M-Th) Mrs Judy Inskip (F) Mrs Jo Groger (M-F)

IT Trainee: Mr Nick Ramsay

Maintenance: Mr Colin Meredith

School Leadership Team:

Stage Coordinators: Mrs Kelly Gray (ES1 /S1), Mrs Margaret Rowan (S2), Mrs Margaret Meehan (S3)

Religious Education Co –Ordinator: Mrs Leesa Gillard

Assistant Principal: Mrs Margaret Rowan

Principal: Mr Scott Buchan

The Season of Advent

As the second week of Advent draws to a close we continue to prepare our hearts and wait for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We remember when John the Baptizer made his appearance as a preacher in the desert of Judea, this was his theme: Reform your lives. The reign of God is at hand!" Mt 3:1



Lord,

like a loving parent, you offer me your comforting hand.

Help me to wait for your coming with patience and to listen to what you ask of me.

I want so much to be one of "your people" and to live my life in you.



Thank you for the way you bless my life.

Thank you for listening to my prayers and for planting deep in my heart

the knowledge that with you, nothing is impossible.

Amen

Christmas Affirmation

I BELIEVE that Christmas is more than a time for parties and ornaments; it is a time for remembering Christ and the incarnation of God's love in human flesh.

I BELIEVE there are gifts more important than the ones under the Christmas tree, the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the industry with which we set about reshaping the world in our time.

I BELIEVE that the finest carols are often sung by the poorest voices; from hearts made warm by the wonder of the season.

I BELIEVE in the angel's message that we should not be afraid—that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.

I BELIEVE in prayer and quietness as a way of appropriating Christmas—that if I wait in silence I will experience the presence of the one born in the manger, for he lives today as surely as he lived then.

I BELIEVE in going away from Christmas as the wise men went: "another way." I want to be different when these days are past—more centered, more thoughtful, more caring.

AND I BELIEVE God will help me.

Amen

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers

Social Justice Activity: Thankyou!



Our last Social Justice Initiative for 2017 has been a huge success!

On Friday 8th December, the St Mary MacKillop community presented

Mr Joe Tabone, a representative from the St Vincent de Paul Society,

with 97 bags of grocery items. Mr Tabone, on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society expressed his sincere thanks to all the children and their families and was overwhelmed with our generosity. These items have now been used to make Christmas Hampers for the needy within our community. I would also like to extend my appreciation for the outpouring of support to this important appeal. We have certainly made this Christmas Season special for many local people in need.

Sacramental Program: First Reconciliation 2018

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at St Nicholas of Myra Parish will be in Term 1 next year. To be eligible for First Reconciliation, **children must be in Year 3 or above and must be baptised.**

Parents wishing to enrol their children in the program must attend an information meeting, which will be at St Nicholas of Myra Church on **Tuesday 13th February 2018 at 7.00pm.**

Further information regarding the program will be given at this meeting.

If your child has not been baptised, and you wish to enrol them in the program, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator, Colleen Nicholas on 47 212509.



May the joy of the Christmas Season be with you and I wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas .

Mrs Leesa Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator



String Instrument you want to sell or donate??

It's that time of the year when the new Year 3 students are looking to purchase string instruments. If any families have unwanted instruments they wish to sell whether it be your child has discontinued the program or has outgrown a violin, please send a note to Mr Carroll as many families are looking to buy second hand instruments and I will put you in contact.

Strings 2018

A reminder to all parents of current strings students that your child will automatically be re-enrolled in the strings lessons program for 2018 unless otherwise notified in writing to the office. If your child wishes to begin lessons at the commencement of 2018, especially Year 3 2018, please pick up an application form from Mr Carroll or at the office. Please return the application for by the end of this week.

2017 - Looking back

What a wonderful creative year we've had. Congratulations to all our students who have been apart of:

- Junior Choir
- Captivate Choir
- Primary Choir
- Captivate Voices
- St Mary MacKillop Orchestra
- Captivate Orchestra
- Kids Can Act with Mrs Parkes
- Stage 3 Dance Troupe
- Creative Arts Showcase
- Dance-athon (with Pistachio Entertainment)
- Talent Quest 2017
- Christmas with Andrew Chinn

2018 looks to be a big year at St Mary MacKillop with Creative Arts with our school fete in May, 10th Anniversary of Captivate at Olympic Park and last but not least, our school musical in Term 4!!!

Thank you for your continued support of our Creative Arts and Extra-curricular Program and I wish you a very Musical Christmas.

Mr. Brad Carroll
Creative Arts

Maths Assessment Interviews

As you would be aware, St Mary MacKillop Primary School has had a Professional Development focus on Mathematics since 2011, with the view to continually improve the learning outcomes of all our students in this area.

Led by the Catholic Education Department and supported by our Academic partner Dr Ann Gervasoni staff have been trained in the use of a special assessment tool called 'Mathematical Assessment Interview' (MAI). This is a one to one interview with a student, which takes approximately 30 minutes. The information gathered from this assessment is used to help teachers analyse the mathematical understanding of students across four domains in number – Counting, Place Value, Addition/Subtraction and Multiplication/Division. This information provides teachers with detailed analysis about children's number knowledge. Teachers are then able to provide more targeted learning opportunities to enhance student learning.

It is our intention that every student enrolled at St Mary MacKillop will have completed their interview at the beginning of the year. To assist staff in completing these interviews as early as possible in the new year, we are asking for students who would be available during our **Staff Development Day on Monday 29 January from 12pm to 3:30pm, Tuesday 30 January from 9am to 3:30pm. We will also have availability on the first day back at school, Wednesday 31 January from 3pm to 4pm. Kindergarten 2018 students can book for MAI on Wednesday 31 January between 9am and 4pm**

Students need to be dropped off and picked up by parents or a designated adult either side of their allocated time. The MAI will be conducted by our teachers.

Our aim is to conduct this interview for as many students as possible in this time frame. This will not only provide staff with knowledge of individual students but data will then be analysed at the class, grade, school and Diocesan level and assist in the promotion of student growth in mathematical understanding.

If you are able to assist us in making your child/ren available for any of these times you will need to log onto:

- www.schoolinterviews.com.au
- Enter the event code **5uc94**
- Enter your email address, type your full name and phone number, select the number of students you will be booking for, enter students full name/s and press GO
- Select your child's 2018 year and press GO
- A screen will display with available times, simply tick the day and time that suits you. Please note you are able to book the same day and time for siblings, where available..
- A booking confirmation screen will display, please check dates and times are correct and press FINISH
- When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately **Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have entered your email address correctly. DO NOT DELETE the email you are sent. You may need to refer back to it.**
- You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time and change your interviews, via a link in the email that was sent to you, when you made your bookings - until the bookings close on 26 January at 4pm
- Please contact the office if you require assistance on 02 47243 200 or email stmarymackillop@parra.catholic.edu.au



2018 Team Sport Trials

Parramatta Diocese 2018 Information For Parents of **current Year 4** and **Year 5 students** – Registration window open only for Basketball & Tennis ONLY

All correspondence to:

PDCPSSC

Aengus Kavanagh Education & Equity Centre

PO Box 215, Rooty Hill 2766

Tel (02) 9677 4314

Mobile 0408 278 918

mthornton@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

Facebook: Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese

Dear Parents,

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2018 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2017 and Term One in 2018. 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 2018 be invited to attend. To facilitate this, Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports:

Sport	Age Group	Trial Date	Registration closing date
AFL	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Basketball	Open boys & girls	14th November 2017	Friday 27th October 2017
Cricket	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Diving	10/11yrs girls & boys & 12/13yrs girls & boys	Term One 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2018
Football (Soccer)	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Golf	Open boys & girls	Term Three 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2018
Hockey	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Netball	Open girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Rugby League	Open boys & 11yrs boys - NB. No State team selected for 11 yrs	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Rugby Union	Open boys	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Softball	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Tennis	Open boys & girls	20th November 2017	Friday 27th October 2017
Touch	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018

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 ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the **SPORT** you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form". **Each sport has a different registration criteria.**

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2018 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 and when completed, click SUBMIT.

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".

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.

\$8.00 trialling fee is payable on the day for after school trials & \$10.00 trialling fee is payable on the day for half day and full day trials.

– This is to be paid upon registration at the trials once your child has been approved to attend the Parramatta Diocesan Trials.

Please note that the full day trials will be for boys cricket, boys soccer, boys rugby league & boys rugby union.

Due to the popularity of boys cricket, boys soccer and girls netball a maximum of 2 children only are eligible to trial from each school. Selection of the 2 boys and girls will be made jointly by the school sport coordinator and principal.

Half day trial for tennis and netball... all other trials will be held after school beginning at 4pm.

MACKILLOP TRIAL

It should be noted that the main purpose of the Mackillop trial is to select a team to compete at the NSW PSSA Championships. The Inter-Diocesan MacKillop Trial is not a competition although a round robin format is often used to facilitate the selection procedure.

NSW PSSA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Children who are successful at being selected in the Mackillop team will compete at the N.S.W. P.S.S.A. Championships. These championships involve three or four days of competition at various locations in NSW. Children selected in these teams may also be required to attend training sessions. At the NSW PSSA Championships a State team will be selected to participate at the School Sport Australia Inter State Exchange for some sports.

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

To be considered for selection in the NSW PSSA state team for participation at all School Sport Australia 12 Years & Under championships: Students must be turning between the ages of 10 and 12 in the year of competition i.e. Students turning the ages of 8, 9 and 13 in the year of competition are not eligible for NSW PSSA State selection.

Please note the following information:

- Parents are responsible for all transport and supervision arrangements and must remain to supervise their child at the trial at all times.
- Children need to generally be of representative standard.
- Attendance at training days, where applicable is compulsory.
- The selector's decisions are final.
- Parents will need to make their own travel arrangements for children representing Parramatta at Inter-Diocesan MacKillop trials. This may mean travel to Sydney, Wollongong, Canberra, Wagga or Forbes.
- Please be aware that the teacher conducting the trial and accompanying the team to the venue is a "Team Manager" ~ not a coach.

If you would like your child to participate in one of the Parramatta Diocesan trials please complete the Team Online Registration Form that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

**NOMINATIONS close Friday 27th October 2017 for the sports of Basketball & Tennis
and entries close Friday 2nd February 2018 for all other sports.**

Kind Regards,

Margaret Thornton

Teaching Educator Primary Sport ~ CEO Parramatta

WEBSITE: www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

The screenshot shows the PDCPSSC website interface. The top navigation bar includes 'HOME', 'SPORTS & EVENTS', 'CONTACT', 'PDCPSSC', 'PDCPSSC', and 'YOUR NEWS'. The main content area is titled 'Representative Selections' and contains a 'REGISTER' button. A red arrow points from the 'REGISTER' button to the registration form on the right.



This is the message that appears once the registration has been submitted correctly and a NO-REPLY email should be received within 24 hours.

Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

ST MARY MACKILLOP SCHOOL FETE 2018 - MAY 6, 2018

COMPETITION TIME

We want our Facebook page 'St Mary MacKillop Primary Fete, Penrith' to grow so we can promote our fete. Share, like or comment on any of our posts for your chance to win one of 2 Hoyts double passes.

Let's see if we can have 1000 people following our page before the new school year starts!

TRASH AND TREASURE

If you're doing a holiday clean out, consider setting aside anything that is no longer useful for you but in good condition to donate it to our Trash and Treasure Stall. Donations will be welcome from the start of the 2018 school year.

SPONSOR OUR FETE

We have accepted sponsorship from some amazing local businesses and we couldn't be more thankful.

Outback Steakhouse

Uphire Equipment Specialists

Sponsorship opportunities are still available - if you have a business or work for a business and would like to help out the school with sponsorship but also receive advertising, get in contact with us. We'd like you to get some bang for your buck, so be quick!

FOR A SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL EMAIL: smmpfete2018@gmail.com or call Catherine Watson on 0408971675.

Please contact if you are able to sponsor, donate or help out the fete in any way.



School Contact Information

St Mary MacKillop has migrated to a new digital phone system which in turn means our phone number has changed. The new school phone number is **02 4724 3200**.

The old phone number is still in effect and will be for the next 12 months, however, when we call you the new contact phone number will be shown on your caller id.



Phone Number Change



Dates for Your Diary Term 4—2017

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Friday	15 December		Last Day of Term 4 for Students
Monday	18 December		Staff Development Day
Tuesday	19 December		Staff Development Day

Dates for Your Diary Term 1—2018

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Monday	29 January	12pm - 3:30pm	Staff Development Day Maths Assessment Interviews
Tuesday	30 January	9am - 3:30pm	Staff Development Day Maths Assessment Interviews
Wednesday	31 January	9am - 3pm 3pm - 4pm	First Day of Term 1 - Years 1 to 6 Kindergarten Maths Assessment Interviews Maths Assessment Interviews
Thursday	1 February		First Day of Term 1 - Kindergarten
Friday	2 February	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly

Is this safe?



PEANUT AND TREE NUT ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL



- DO NOT **SHARE** FOOD
- **WASH HANDS**
AFTER SNACK AND MEAL TIMES.
- **ASK QUESTIONS** IF YOU ARE UNSURE
OF "SAFE" FOODS.
- READ **ALL** INGREDIENT LABELS.

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Thank you
for helping us
provide a safe environment
for our friends with food allergies!



St Mary Mackillop Primary School – Term 4, 2017



Eat Fresh: Healthy Body, Healthy Mind!

Every Day Hot Food

Chicken Nuggets	4 for \$2.80
Chicken Nuggets	6 for \$4.00
Party Pie	\$1.00
Corn on the Cob	\$1.00
Garlic Bread	\$2.00
Chicken Fingers (6)	\$3.50
Veggie Burger	\$4.00
All Burgers include salad	
Salsa Wrap	\$4.50
Chicken Caesar Wrap	\$4.50
Nemo Wrap	\$4.50
Chicken Tender Wrap	\$4.50
Lamb Kebab Wrap	\$4.50

Daily Specials

Monday

Traveller Pie	\$3.50
Sausage Roll	\$3.00

Tuesday

Fried Rice with Chicken Wings (2)	\$5.00
Pasta Bolognese	\$4.00

Wednesday

Lasagne	\$4.00
Sweet Chilli Wrap	\$3.00

Thursday

Beef Burger	\$4.00
Butter Chicken & Rice	\$4.00

Friday

Chicken Burger	\$4.00
Sausage Roll	\$3.00

Sushi Roll

(Available Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday)

Chicken & Cucumber	\$3.50
Chicken Teriyaki	
Tuna & Cucumber	

Sandwiches

AVAILABLE IN WHITE OR MULTIGRAIN

WRAP OR ROLL ADD 0.50c TO SANDWICH PRICE

Vegemite, Jam, Devon	\$2.00
Tomato, Cheese	\$2.50
Tuna or Egg	\$3.00
Leg Ham, Chicken or Salmon	\$3.50
Salad Sandwich	\$3.50
Lettuce Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot & Carrot	
EXTRAS - Including Toasting	\$0.40

Salad

Cup

Fresh Fruit Salad	\$2.00
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Boxes

Garden Salad	\$4.00
With Ham or Tuna	\$4.50
With Salmon or Chicken	\$5.00
Add to your Salad box	ea \$0.40
Egg, Cheese, Avocado, Sprouts, Bacon, Croutons	
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$5.50

Snacks

Piece of Fruit	\$1.00
Cookies, Delights, Popcorn, Jumpy's	\$1.00
Assorted Chips	\$1.30
Screw Top Yoghurt	\$2.00
Fruit Yoghurt Cup	\$2.00
Banana Bread—Slice	\$3.00

Drinks

Juice - Poppers	\$1.60
Plain Milk 300ml	\$1.60
with Sippah Straw	\$2.20
Pop Top Juice	\$2.00
Bottled Water 600ml	\$2.00
Glee 99% Sparking Juice	\$2.20
Blackcurrant, Raspberry, Tropical	
Flavoured Milk Lite 300ml	\$2.30
Fruit 2o	\$2.50
Orange Mango, Dragonfruit	
Iced Tea LOW SUGAR 500ml	\$3.00

Ice Blocks

Zooper Dooper	\$0.80
Frozen Juice Cup/ Icy Mony	\$1.00
Lemonade, Mango or Strawberry Split	\$1.00
Flash Ice Block on Stick	\$1.50
Scooby Chocolate, Banana or Caramel	\$1.60
Looney Tunes Plain Ice Cream Cup	\$2.00
Slushie Cup	\$2.00

Visit the Canteen for ice block specials

Order Your Lunch Online

Orders can be placed before 8:30am

www.flexischools.com.au



Canteen Bento Box

\$5.00

½ Sandwich, Chicken Wing, Cheese and Crackers, Seasonal Fruit & 2 Mini Muffins

Check with the Canteen for the current Meal Deals \$5.00

PLEASE NOTE

♦ Afternoon Tea orders are to be **PICKED UP FROM THE CANTEEN.**

♦ All **ICE CREAMS** ordered with lunch are given out when the **LUNCH BAG IS RETURNED TO THE CANTEEN.**

Kids Can Act - Holiday Workshops

Monday 15 th Jan	Tuesday 16 th Jan	Wednesday 17 th Jan	Thursday 18 th Jan	Friday 19 th Jan
SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH
9.00-3.00pm Very Fairy Princess	9.30-2.30 pm No Such Thing As Dragons	9.00-2.00pm Suitcase of Memories	9.30-2.30pm On Trial: - Fairy Tale Characters	9.00-3.00pm The Magic Paintbrush
	2.30-5.30 pm Scenarios & Drama Games	2.00-6.00pm The Rumour		
Monday 22 nd Jan	Tuesday 23 rd Jan	Wednesday 24 th Jan	Thursday 25 th Jan	VENUES
SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD: -
9.30-2.30 pm No Such Thing As Dragons	9.00-3.00pm The Magic Paintbrush	9.00-3.00pm Very Fairy Princess	9.00-2.00pm Suitcase of Memories	133 Macquarie Rd (next to Domino's Pizza)
2.30-5.30 pm Scenarios & Drama Games			2.00-6.00pm The Rumour	SOUTH PENRITH: - Neighbourhood Centre 3 Trent St. (Behind Southlands)
<p>All prices and workshop descriptions can be found at www.kidscanact.com.au</p> <p>Don't miss the EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!</p>				



OUTBACK

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