

# ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue. Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

[www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au)

T: 03 9367 6199



## Upcoming Events

### Term 2

**Monday 30 April**

Year 5 Camps

**Monday 7 May**

David Hornsby Family night-

See Flyer

**Thursday 10 May and Friday 11  
May**

Mother's Day Stall

**Sunday 13 May**

Mother's Day

**Monday 14 May**

Mother's Day Breakfast-

See flyer

**Tuesday 15 May-Thursday 17 May**

Naplan for Year 3 & 5

**Saturday 2 June**

Year 3 Eucharist

12.30pm-3Y & 3B

2.30pm-3G & 3R

**Monday 11 June**

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

**Wednesday 27 June**

Parent Teacher Conversations

1.00pm-6.00pm

**Thursday 28 June**

Parent Teacher Conversations

3.45pm-6.00pm

**Friday 29 June**

End of Term 2-School finishes at  
1.00pm

## ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

Last Saturday many of our Year 6 students were confirmed by Bishop Mark Edwards or received a blessing from the Bishop.

Our Confirmation ceremony is always a very reverent and special occasion. Bishop Edwards spoke with the children prior to their Confirmation and reminded them that this was an important time in their lives when they become an adult in the Church. He also spoke to them about the fact that the Holy Spirit is present and will forever be present in their lives. The children were very reverent and showed they were ready to receive the Holy Spirit. Bishop Edwards knelt on the floor with the children and prayed with them before they headed over to the church. We are very grateful to Bishop Edwards for making this a very special and spiritual occasion for our Year 6 children.

Thank you to Monsignor Portelli and Father Paul who celebrated the mass with the Bishop and who helped make this a special occasion. We thank them for all their guidance and support of our Year 6 students. I would also like to thank Anne-Marie Conte, Jasmine McIlvena, Nicole Marevic, Linda Nguyen, Nadia Bogusz and Vicky Himmelreich for their work in preparing the children to receive the Sacrament.

Thank you to all the staff who assisted and supported the Year Six children and teachers on the day. Their presence is very much appreciated and allows the children and teachers to focus on the celebration.

Thank you to all the parents, sponsors and families who prepared the children and supported them with their Confirmation.

And finally thank you to all the Year 6 children. You showed that you really were ready to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and we look forward to seeing the fruits and gifts of the Spirit lived out in your lives.

This week our Year 5 students along with Miss Parnell, Mr Dopierala, Mrs Amato, Miss Raymond, Mr Maxwell, Miss Clarke, Mr Quinn, Ms Conte and Ms Monaghan will head down to Lorne for a 3 day surf camp. We wish them well and are sure they will have a wonderful experience, returning with many great stories and exciting tales to tell.

**We have much to celebrate here at St Mary MacKillop PS.**

**We would like to congratulate the following staff members on the birth of a child or grandchild:**

**Laura Kantzidis** on the birth of her daughter **Sienna**.

**Linda Muscat** on the birth of her grandchild **Maggie Jude**.

**Denise Thorne** on the birth of her grandchild **Georgia**.

Have a lovely week,

**Anthony D'Amico**

**Acting Principal**

## THE WISDOM OF ST. MARY MACKILLOP

*In each Newsletter, we provide a quote from the writings of St. Mary MacKillop. Mary was an extensive letter writer to the sisters within her congregation (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, or the Josephites as they were known). She also wrote many letters to her family.*

*These wonderful words of wisdom provide us with much to reflect on...*

***“God’s presence is before me almost in everything, and I love to come to God in prayer as to my dearest and only Friend.”***

*To Monsignor Kirby 1873*

## 2018 TERM DATES

**Term 1**-Thursday 1 February-  
Thursday 29 March

**Term 2**-Monday 16 April-  
Friday 29 June

**Term 3**-Monday 16 July-  
Friday 21 September

**Term 4**-Monday 8 October-  
Wednesday 19 December

## Parent Engagement

**Pasta Day**-Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
May. Orders are now closed.

**Mother’s Day Stall**- Thursday  
10 May and Friday 11 May  
-See flyer.

**Mother’s Day Breakfast**-  
Monday 14 May-See flyer.

## Unexplained student absence: New Requirements

A review of school Attendance Guidelines was undertaken by the Minister for Education in Term 4, 2017.

### The Minister of Education has said that all:

**'schools must advise parents/guardians of unexplained absences, on the same day, as soon as practicable'.**

The changes in the Attendance Guidelines were introduced at St Mary MacKillop P.S. as of Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

If your child/ren are going to be absent from school for any reason, we ask that you log onto the skoolbag app, then go to eForms, hit Absentee Form and complete the details of the absence then hit submit.

- All Absentee forms go to the front office and to myself. They are then forwarded to the classroom teacher.
- If your child is away and we have not been notified, you will receive an SMS message asking you to contact the school. If we do not hear from you within a certain time we will call your emergency contacts. If we cannot reach the Emergency contacts we will then need to call the Police.
- If you have not yet downloaded the Skoolbag app we ask that you do this as soon as possible.

These practices are to ensure the safety of your children.

Thank You for your support

**Anthony D'Amico**

**Do you want to play tennis?**

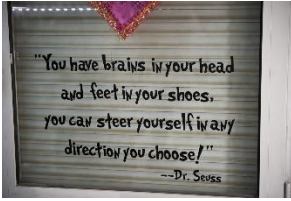
Tennis lessons will be held at lunchtime in the school hall  
**First lesson is FREE!**  
All new enrolments will receive a  
**FREE Hotshots t-shirt**



0423 382 268  
[www.jlts.com.au](http://www.jlts.com.au)  
[jesse.laino@hotmail.com](mailto:jesse.laino@hotmail.com)

## Term 2 Overviews

The Term overviews are available for viewing on the school's website. They provide an insight into what is happening across the school in all curriculum areas. Please take the time to have a read and discuss them with your child/children.



Anna Yorston  
Learning & Teaching Leader (Yrs 3-6)

## Book Club

A BIG thank you to everyone who has purchased books through Scholastic Book Club. Issue Two saw a total of \$1500 spent which resulted in \$300 of reward points be allocated to our school. This money was spent buying new books for the library and new resources for the classroom.

It is exciting to see the smiles on the children's faces when their books arrive so please keep supporting us. Here is a sample of some of the resources that were purchased with our rewards points.

Anna Yorston & Rita Krnac  
English Leaders



## Visitors from Canada

At the end of last term, SMMPS were very privileged to have had international guests visit our school. A delegation of Catholic and Public School Principals, as well as, Super Intendents from Catholic districts in Canada, were keen to visit a Melbourne Catholic school that is committed to improving student learning by engaging in learning sprints. Learning Sprints is a targeted teaching approach we are embedding in our early years and several teachers are currently undertaking Professional Development in this area. Our visitors were impressed with Mr McCluskey's leadership and our approach to Teaching and Learning and how data is used to effectively plan relevant learning experiences for our students. They were overwhelmed and complimentary of the aesthetics of the school environment, the professionalism of the teachers and the happy and engaged students.

We hope to continue to take time to explore the opportunity to build a culture of learning together with our Canadian colleagues.

Rita Krnac and Anna Yorston

Learning and Teaching Leaders



## **NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2018 for Years 3,5,7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 15 May, Wednesday 16 May and Thursday 17 May 2018. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to inform student achievement.

Students in Years 3 & 5 have already been participating in practice NAPLAN assessments to allow the students to work under 'test like conditions.' All students in Years 3 & 5 will be expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests.

Leading up to NAPLAN, the media will present varying opinions regarding the purpose and validity of NAPLAN. At St Mary MacKillop Primary School, we believe in teaching the students the skills and strategies required in order to approach and complete the task in a positive mindset. Therefore we ask that when discussing NAPLAN with your children, that you support the school in making NAPLAN a positive experience.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN please go and speak to your child's classroom teacher or to one of the Learning and Teaching Leaders.

Anna Yorston & Rita Krnac  
Learning and Teaching Leaders

## **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

On Saturday 28th April, the year 6s had their Confirmation. Bishop Mark Edwards lead the church ceremony with Monsignor Portelli and Father Paul helping him. Before the ceremony started, Bishop Mark Edwards talked to us and our sponsors about what we need to do. He also prayed with us, which definitely calmed our nerves. At the Church, there were so many people there celebrating this special day. The Bishop laid his hands on us and we agreed to our Baptismal Promises (just like our parents did for us once). With the teacher's help, it was our turn to walk up to the Bishop to be anointed with the Chrism oil which smells like roses! After the mass, we found our families and took some photos with the Bishop.

We went home to continue the celebrations with our families and friends. The day was really fantastic! Thanks to all the teachers who were there to celebrate with us.

**By Mackenzie and Owen, 6G**



As you may know the Year 6's got confirmed on Saturday by Bishop Mark Edwards. Mostly everyone was nervous at first but as we went further into Mass we felt less nervous and more confident. At Mass we did the Renewal of Baptismal Promises, The Laying of the Hands and The Anointing of Chrism. After we got confirmed, five candidates from each session did the readings of Intersession. Then the church went on as a normal Mass. At the end of Mass we walked outside and we took photos with family, friends and the Bishop. The day went really well. **By Isabella & Alexa: (6Y)**

On Saturday the 28th of April was our Confirmation, we all got to meet Bishop Mark Edwards, for the second time before we went to the church. Bishop Mark Edwards was a very kind and loving person who helped prepare us for our Confirmation and we were all very privileged to meet him. Soon after we headed to the church where we lined up and got ready, all our families were inside and waiting for us to enter. We were very excited and wanted to make the most out of this moment to remember when we become adults. Our Sponsors were very respectful of this moment and we will all cherish this time with them. We were called up to the bishop one by one so the bishop could put the chrism (oil) on our heads. It was a special moment for us, our sponsors and our families and friends, we respect their support and kindness! After the mass, we met up with our family and friends for them to congratulate us and we could take photos with the bishop. After the congratulating and photos we all left to end the day. **By Celeste S. and Dylan A. 6R**

On Saturday the 28th April, most of the Year 6's received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is when you become adults of the Catholic Church. The year 6's were dressed up nicely to go into Church. We all had sponsors who are people who support us while we receive Confirmation and also in our faith journey. One thing we had to do in church was to renew our baptismal promises. This means we agreed to all the promises that our Godparents had made for us at our Baptism. We were then anointed with chrism oil. This is the part where we were going to get confirmed. We went to kneel at the altar, up with our sponsors, they placed their hands on our shoulders. The Bishop said, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit", while putting the oil on our foreheads. We then said, "Amen". Then the Bishop replied, "Peace be with You" and we replied "And with your Spirit". From that moment we were now Confirmed! It really was a great and exciting day! **By Ella Bailey (6 Blue)**

## No Lolly Bags



We wish to remind parents that we have a **NO FOOD Sharing Policy** due to health regulations - allergies and anaphylaxis.

Unfortunately this means that **Lolly Bags** cannot be distributed to students even to take home as students are eating the contents as school finishes. You can't blame them!

This means that candy canes, cupcakes, in fact food of any kind can't be shared with others.

It is such a shame but that is the way of the health needs. If you are stuck for some ideas, I have seen some great ideas on Google that may help you.

Thanks for your understanding - Wellbeing Team

## Ave Maria College

invites you to the



### 2018 Community Education

#### Seminar

A presentation by

Robyn Treyvaud and Dr David Collins

**Thursday, 3 May 2018**

7.00pm to 8.30pm

Francis Hall  
14 - 22 Vida Street  
Aberfeldie

Bookings via: [www.trybooking.com/USKO](http://www.trybooking.com/USKO)

This event is made freely available to parents of Ave Maria College. Members of the broader community are welcome. We thank you for a gold coin donation on arrival.

## Connecting Families: Parenting the Digital Teen

- What does research tell us about girls' use of technology and social media
- How do we raise responsible cyber citizens
- The impact of technology use on girls' health, well-being, relationships and reputations
- Learn about: identity and self image, relationships and communication, privacy and security, online addiction and risks for your teenage daughter.



Robyn Treyvaud is an internationally-recognised expert in online safety and digital citizenship. As the Founder of Cyber Safe Kids, Robyn established a global organisation and network that assisted educators, schools and local communities in understanding and overcoming the challenges of the digital world. Robyn is now the Head of Education at Wangle Family Insites, an Australian founded cyber safety platform designed for children, young adults and importantly, families. Wangle Family Insites have collaborated with leading childhood medical researchers, Telethon Kids Institute to bring a new approach to cyber safety. While initially starting her career in education, Robyn's transition into consulting led her to become a trusted advisor to the media, industry and governments in Australia based on her research and findings in schools around Australia and Asia.



David is a local doctoral trained Clinical Psychologist who has worked with young people for over a decade. David has worked in a variety of settings in public mental health, has been an honorary research fellow with the University of Melbourne, and has been involved in local and international research collaborations developing treatment programs for a range of psychological difficulties. In addition to his private practice, David has delivered workshops for teachers, psychologists, counsellors, parents, and students across Australia in the Neuroscience of young brains. David is also the director and developer of BRAiNgro, a whole school well-being program running in schools across Australia teaching young people about the neuroscience of wellbeing.



## Mary MacKillop Primary School-Production 'Legends of Rock'

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Songs have been chosen, ensemble groups are being formed and the collaborative process is underway for the creation of our 2018 School Production, 'Legends of Rock'

If you know your child is going to be absent for more than a week at a time during the rehearsal process (now until show time) or on Production night itself (Tuesday October 16th) please write a letter to your child(ren)'s classroom teacher(s). Please ensure you stipulate the dates your child(ren) will be absent and if your child(ren) will not be attending the Production. Please ensure you give the reason for them missing the event. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. This really helps us plan and organise for what will be a truly spectacular night!

Below: Images of Year 5 students presenting their mini Production task to an audience of peers



## ***High Tea with Joseph's Corner***

*Come and join us for a great afternoon!*



*All funds raised will go to Joseph's Corner.*

**Where:** Mount St. Joseph's Girls College  
129-133 Maidstone St, Altona

**When:** Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**Time:** 2pm – 5pm

**Cost:** \$30.00 per person

There will be music, raffles, door prizes, guest speakers, party planners, great food and lots more.

Book tickets - on 9315-2680 or Tania - 0439165660

# Phonics and Spelling Parent Information Session

*Facilitated by David Hornsby*



**WHEN:** Monday May 7th

**TIME:** 7.00 - 8.30pm

**WHERE:** Multi Purpose Room

SMMPS would like to invite all Parents and Caregivers to attend an information evening exploring the place of **Phonics and Spelling** at our school. We are pleased to have David Hornsby a highly respected education consultant and author host the evening. Some of the topics David will address include:

- *What are the spelling strategies?*
- *How can we help our children with spelling?*
- *Why is phonics always in the news?*
- *Debunking some of the myths around phonics*
- *Why can't phonics work without meaning?*
- *Teaching phonics, in context, and as one of the essential spelling strategies*
- *What's the place of spelling lists?*

David has worked with the staff of SMMPS and shared his knowledge of using authentic literature to teach Phonics and Spelling. Many of the strategies David will discuss are implemented in our English program and across other learning areas.

We would love to have you join us for the evening. If you are interested in attending please complete the CareMonkey form.

**Please Note:** This information session is for **Parents / Caregivers only**.



# CRCNK Enrolment Year 7, 2020

Enrolment is currently open for Grade 5, 2018 students

*Enrolment Closes 3 August, 2018*

Offers posted to families Friday, 9 October, 2018  
Final date for acceptance Friday, 2 November, 2018

## *College Tour Dates Term 2*

- Wednesday, 9 May 9.15am – Full
- Thursday, 24 May 9.15am
- Thursday, 31 May 9.15am

## *Bookings required*

Please phone  
9361 5900  
or email  
[office@crcnk.vic.edu.au](mailto:office@crcnk.vic.edu.au)



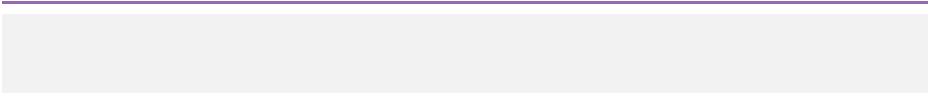
**Catholic  
Regional College  
North Keilor**

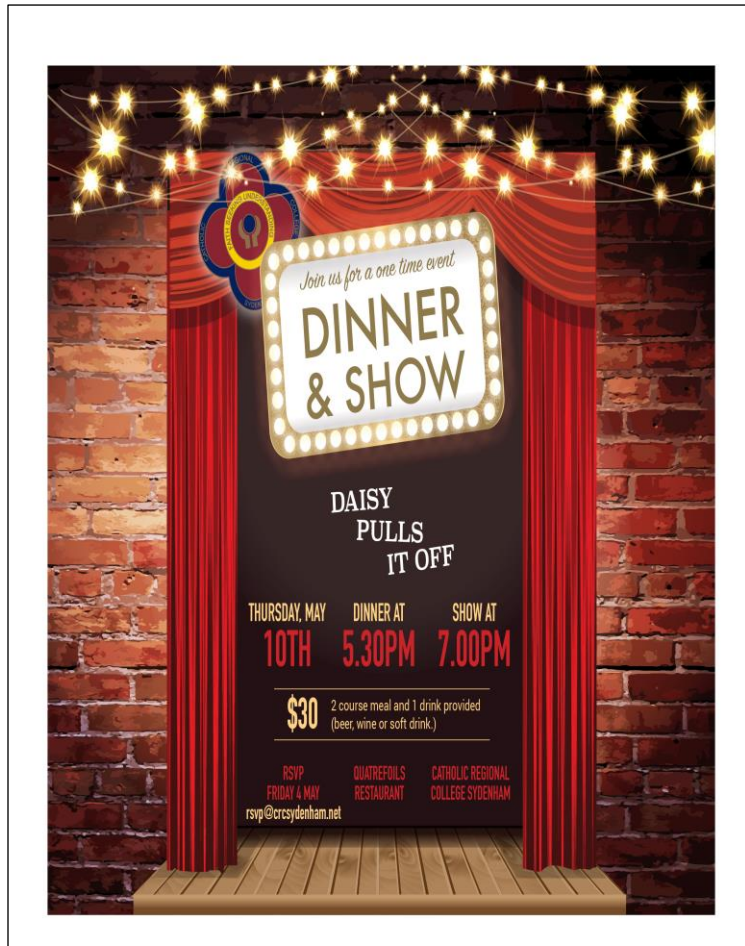
1c Santa Monica Drive, Keilor Lodge VIC 3038  
Post: PO Box 40, Taylors Lakes VIC 3038

**2018  
THE YEAR OF**

# *Faith*

Phone: 9361 5900 Fax: 9390 9620  
Web: [www.crcnk.com.au](http://www.crcnk.com.au)





**Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre**  
362 Albert St, EAST MELBOURNE



**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018**



**10.00am - 4.00pm**

- Pray in the Chapel
- Take a tour of the Museum
- Visit the Gift Shop
- Enjoy a light refreshment
- Mary MacKillop Walking Tour available @ 11am

For further information and acceptances please contact MMHC on  
(03) 9926 9300 or [admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au](mailto:admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au)



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ALL OUR MUM'S ARE INVITED TO OUR.....

## MOTHER'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Date:** Monday 14 May, 2018  
**Time:** 7:30am to 08:45am  
**Venue:** St Mary MacKillop School Hall  
**Price:** \$7.00 per person

We invite our Mum's, Grand mum's, aunts and any other significant females in our children's lives to join us for a Pancake breakfast at school.

What's on the menu? I hear you ask! We will have:

- 2 Stack Pancake with Ice-Cream & Syrup
- Juice
- Cappuccino, Long Black, Latte and Hot Chocolate can be purchased from our coffee machines at a low price of \$3.00.

Please complete the slip below and return with your money to the office by **Wednesday 9th May. As this is a catered event, we strictly cannot accept any reply's after this date.**

Hope to see you there!

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### MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST – Monday 14th MAY 2018

Your Name			
Eldest Child's Name		Eldest Child/s Class	
Number of persons attending			
I enclose \$_____ for the Mother's day breakfast			

**NB: Please return to school by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May – thank you!**