



# SAINT MARY MACKILLOP

## Primary School Keilor Downs

06 June 2017  
No. 14

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## e-NEWS



Dear Community,

Next week we welcome to our school Mr. Trevor Gordon from Cairns in Queensland, who will be engaging with us in a **school review**. Mr. Gordon will be spending three days in our school. He will be utilising the **National School improvement Tool**, developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to provide us with feedback, support and direction. We look to use the information gained and the advice given by the reviewer to assist us in constructing our new **School Improvement Plan** for the period **2018-2021**.

The National School Improvement Tool brings together findings from international research into the practices of highly effective schools. The Tool assists schools to review and reflect on their efforts to improve the quality of classroom teaching and learning. It supports school wide conversations about aspects of current practice, areas for improvement and evidence that progress is made.

The Tool focuses on those practices that are most directly related to school-wide improvements, and thus outcomes for students. The ultimate goal of school improvement is to improve outcomes for students, including levels of achievement and wellbeing.

The Tool will consider nine interrelated domains. These being:

1. An explicit improvement agenda
2. Analysis and discussion of data
3. A culture that promotes learning
4. Targeted use of school resources
5. An expert teaching team
6. Systematic curriculum delivery
7. Differentiated teaching and learning
8. Effective pedagogical practices
9. School-community partnerships.

We are one of few schools in the archdiocese that has chosen to undertake this type of review. Our decision is based on our genuine and sincere commitment to your children. We want to ensure higher learning outcomes for all children and the well-being of every child. Ultimately, school improvement is about the kids, because that is why we are here!

We are confident we have a good school. Our enrolments testify to this fact. The positive vibe amongst the children and the community and our high teacher retention rate all point to how well we are doing. However, we can never rest on our laurels. I know there are many things we can do better, thus making for a better learning environment for our children.

We enter this review with a sense of anticipation and excitement about the future. We look forward to what we might achieve here at St. Mary MacKillop Primary School.

Yours Sincerely,

**Anthony McCluskey**  
**Principal**

### IMPORTANT DATES 2017 Term Dates

#### Term 2

18 April-30 June

#### Term 3

17 July-22 September

#### Term 4

9 October-20 December

### 2017-Term 2

#### Monday 12 June

Queen's Birthday Public  
Holiday

#### Friday 30 June

Last Day of Term 2-  
Students finish at 1.00pm

*The wisdom of  
St. Mary MacKillop  
"Seek to please  
God."*

8.6.1868

**REMEMBER: NEXT MONDAY 12 JUNE is the QUEEN's BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY****The school is closed.****WORLD NEWS**

We seem to be saturated in the media with reports of terrorist incidents. This is becoming a harsh reality of our world today. I have had reports of some children in the school being disturbed and upset about such events. It is hard to shield them from the media and these news reports. I include an article from Michel Grose that might give you some clues and support in how to deal with this issue and possibly allay your child's fears if this seems apparent.

**TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT TERRORISM BY MICHAEL GROSE**

The recent terrorist attacks in London following on from the recent events in Manchester, where children and young people were among the victims, has spread shockwaves across the globe. With media coverage reaching saturation levels it's difficult to shield children from these events. The task for parents is to reassure children, while trying to explain events that for most of us are inexplicable.

While most parents quietly don't want to discuss terrorism with children, it's not a topic that you should avoid, particularly if your children ask pertinent questions.

Here are some ideas that will help:

**1. Discuss age-appropriately**

The Australian Psychological Society recommends, "It's best to shield pre-schoolers completely from frightening or traumatic world events." This means protecting young children from media coverage and being mindful of adult conversations around young children. However even young children overhear conversations and know what is happening, so be prepared to discuss events in ways that they understand.

Primary school-aged children have more exposure through the media and the schoolyard. However, children can easily misinterpret events so be prepared to clarify misconceptions and open the way for conversations.

Older children are usually very aware of media coverage, and have an understanding of the ramifications both personally and politically. Opening the way for more in-depth conversations as well as processing any feelings that arise is important for this age group.

**2. Manage yourself first**

Children of all ages take their cues about unusual events from their parents. Events such as terrorism may leave you feeling unsettled and outraged but you need to think carefully about the emotions you communicate to children. First and foremost, they need to feel safe, so it's best to keep extreme emotions in check in front of children. Share how you feel with your children, but make sure you are in control of your emotions. Air strong feelings of anger or disgust with trusted adults if you need to vent or explore your own reactions.

**3. Find out what they know**

Children often confuse time and place so they can easily think that an event that occurred on the other side of the world will directly impact on them. Young children, in particular, usually personalise situations. They may, for example, think that an older relative is in danger because he or she is a regular concert-goer.

**Continued Over The Page....**

#### 4. Keep conversations simple

Let children steer the conversation with their questions and worries. Answer children's questions matter-of-factly and simply, while bringing issues down to their level if necessary by talking about why people get into fights, and pinpointing appropriate and inappropriate reactions. With older children and teens, you may be to hold discussions around politics and religion but do so without stereotyping, or providing narrow analyses of events.

#### 5. Listen to their worries

Encourage your children to talk about their feelings as well as their thoughts about the events. If possible, help them give their feelings a name. Assist them to understand that it's normal to feel scared, sad and angry when events like these occur. Some children may want to spend more time around you, which is a natural reaction to distressing events occur that are outside their control.

#### 6. Monitor media exposure

Limit children's exposure to television as constant viewing of images of tragedy and terror can reinforce that the world is a dangerous place. Be mindful that constant repetition can de-sensitise some children impacting on their ability to feel empathy. If news is being seen, join children and young people to watch those media stories of terrorism so you can provide adult perspective and clarity to what they are seeing.

#### 7. Help kids feel empowered

Keep reminding children and young people that their world is basically a safe place. Focus on simple ways that young children stay safe such as wearing a seatbelt, using a helmet while riding a bike and strapping on safety gear when they skateboard. Older children may want to fundraise for a charity organisation so they learn that they can make a positive difference. You may also hold discussions with teenagers about current safety measures such as airport security and possible increases in security at future entertainment and sporting events.

#### 8. Remind kids that people are good

Perhaps the most insidious aspect about terrorism for those that are not directly affected by it is that it can lead to mistrust of others and a cynicism toward different religious or political groups. It's easy to lose sight of the basic goodness in all of us. It maybe useful then to highlight stories of heroism and goodness that come out of terrorism attacks. With young children, make a list of all the people such as medics, police and fire personnel that keep us safe. With older children share stories of heroism, community and the help that always comes after distressing events.

Conversations about disastrous events such as terrorism provide opportunities for parents to help children manage difficult emotions; and help them make sense of complex events while broadening their understanding of the world.

### Condolences

**We would like to offer our condolences to the Pascale Family (Noah 5R) on the passing of their grandfather. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.**

## PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

### UP AND COMING EVENTS

Next meeting held this Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 9am in the staff room.

#### TERM TWO

Special Lunch Day – Hot Dog Day , Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June. Please see details below.

Hoyts Movie Night – 16<sup>th</sup> June Despicable Me 3 @ 6:30pm all tickets \$12.50 each. Order forms attached. (Seats are limited)

Crazy Hair Day– 30<sup>th</sup> June: Last day of term. Gold coin donation. More details in the coming weeks.

#### TERM THREE

Ladies Night – August – Date and venue to be confirmed

Father's Day Stall– 31<sup>st</sup> August 1<sup>st</sup> September

Dance Party– Date to be confirmed

#### TERM FOUR

Sausage Sizzle– Date to be confirmed

Christmas Carols Night– Date to be confirmed



Since the recent unexpected closure of the canteen, the school and the Parent's Association have decided to hold a number of special lunch days throughout the term. The first of these will be on **Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> of June**. Children will be able to purchase the following lunch special:

- **Hot Dog:** \$3.00 each
- **Hot Dog Combo:** (Hot-Dog, Pop-top & popcorn)- \$5.00 each

If your child would like to order this special lunch, please log onto

**Flexischools** and place your order. **Orders close on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June.**

### **St Mary Mackillop Primary School is Fundraising with Entertainment Books!**

The brand **NEW 2017/2018 Entertainment Books** are in stock. If you would like to order your copy just visit [www.entbook.com.au/9127y31](http://www.entbook.com.au/9127y31) and place your order online. Books and digital memberships are just \$70 each and are packed full of great offers. Not only will you be receiving amazing discounts to a variety of venues and restaurants, but you will also be helping our school as St Mary Mackillop P.S will receive 20% of all membership sales!





## Outside School Hours Care Program

Last week at OSHC we spent all our afternoons indoors as it was too cold to be outdoors. We did lots of cooking. We made oat cookies and chocolate balls. We played Dodge ball and Ping Pong in the hall. The children also put their fine motor skills to the test with Lego, Play dough and the art tub.

The children in the morning sessions discovered the art of weaving and learnt that weaving was used as a way of garment construction many, many years ago before the use of machinery. We incorporated Autumn leaves and bark into our weaves creating a beautiful piece of art!



We hope everyone has a great week and we thank you for your continued support.

From the OSHC Team.



**Please remember to SMS Vicky/Mary on 0450 211 909 before 11.00 am all bookings and cancellations.**

**CANCELLATIONS AFTER 11.00 AM WILL INCUR A FULL FEE CHARGE.**

**Thank you.**

# Enrolment Key Dates

## YEAR 7, 2019



### Wednesday, 24 May 2017

Applications Open

Twilight Tour 5.30 – 6.30pm

*\*For bookings please phone 9361 5900*

Enrolment Information Session 7pm (College Hall)

*\*Parents only Session. Bookings not required.*

### Friday, 25 August 2017

Applications close.

### Friday, 13 October 2017

1<sup>st</sup> Round offers posted.

### Friday, 27 October 2017

Final date for acceptance of 1<sup>st</sup> Round offers.



Santa Monica Drive, North Keilor Victoria 3038  
PO Box 40 Taylors Lakes 3038 T 03 9361 5900  
F 03 9390 9620 E office@crcnk.vic.edu.au  
www.crcnk.com.au abn 29 354 463 283



## Book Club

Order forms went home last week.  
If you wish to place an order, it must be done  
**ON-LINE ONLY.**



**Don't forget!**  
**Book Club**  
**orders**  
**are due:**  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

**By 2pm**

## Do you want to play tennis?

All new enrolments will receive a  
FREE Hotshots t-shirt



**BOOK NOW** for a FREE trial lesson  
at lunchtime in the hall at Mary Mackillop PS

*jesse lano*  
TENNIS SERVICES

Anthony Raso  
0426 893 683  
www.jlts.com.au  
anthony.raso25@hotmail.com





**Brimbank**  
City Council

A pair of hands holding a white rectangular sign with the words 'MEN'S HEALTH' in large, bold, red capital letters. The background of the sign is a tropical beach scene with turquoise water and green hills.

**MEN'S  
HEALTH**

# **Brimbank Men's Health Day 2017**

No  
CHARGE

**Wednesday 14 June  
10am-1pm**

**Westvale Community Centre  
45 Kings Road, St Albans**

***Guest Speaker: Dave Hughes (11am)***  
- Information stalls - Sausage sizzle



RSVP: 9249 4665 or [westvale@brimbank.vic.gov.au](mailto:westvale@brimbank.vic.gov.au)  
For more information: [www.brimbank.vic.gov.au](http://www.brimbank.vic.gov.au)

**If you have a Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card, please complete and return to the office to receive \$125.00 discount per child off your school fees.**



### CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

#### Parent/legal guardian details

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

-  -  -  **OR**

☐ Foster parent\* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

\*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

#### Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



SMMPS Parents Association  
Invites you to a special screening of

# DESPICABLE ME3



**WHERE?:** *Extremescreen-* Hoyts Watergardens

**WHEN?:** Friday , June 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6.30pm sharp

Tickets are \$12.50 each (children/adult)

If you would like to attend this event, please return your completed form and money to the school office by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Seats are limited to 165 guests only, so be quick!

Hoyts is also offering special snack prices on the evening.

\*Junior Combo: Junior popcorn and Pop-top/water- \$5.00

\*Adult Combo: Regular popcorn and 600ml drink- \$9.00

\* Junior Popcorn- \$2.00

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SMMPS *Despicable Me3* Movie night

Childs Name: ..... Class: .....

Number of Tickets Required: .....@\$12.50 each

Total Money Enclosed: \$.....