

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue. Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

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ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

Welcome back to the new term. I hope that everybody had a lovely Easter and a relaxing break. I know that the children and staff have returned refreshed and ready for what promises to be a busy and exciting Term Two.

During the holidays there was quite a bit of activity here at school with lots of school improvements going on. As you will have noticed our new front gate is well and truly on its way. As we await the new gates to be installed, the usual entrance will be closed and we ask that you use the entrance besides the Year 6 building to gain entry to the school throughout the day.

Enrolments for Prep 2019 close on Friday 27th April. It is important that all current families get their enrolments in by this date as we have lots of interest and we need to get an accurate number of current families. If you know of any families who wish to enrol please let them know that enrolments close next Friday. All enrolment information is available on our website and enrolment forms can be collected from the front office.

This Thursday, Bishop Mark Edwards O.M.I. will be visiting our school and our Year 6 students before they celebrate their Confirmation on Saturday 28th April. Bishop Mark will have an opportunity to meet with the Year 6 students to discuss the importance of the Sacrament and to help alleviate any nerves the children may have. We look forward to spending some valuable time with the Bishop.



Upcoming Events

Term 2

Wednesday 25 April

Anzac Day Public Holiday

Saturday 28 April

Year 6 Confirmation

12.30pm-6G & 6R

2.30pm-6B & 6Y

Monday 30 April

Year 5 Camps

Monday 7 May

David Hornsby Family night-

See Flyer

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

Queens'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

Have a lovely week,

Anthony D'Amico

Acting Principal

WISDOM OF ST. MARY MACKILLOP

In each Newsletter, I 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... I know they inspire me in my personal life.

"I feel more trust in God than ever." (13.04.1874).

More Important News

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Thank you to all the Parents who have already volunteered to help out so far this year. Hot Dog day, St. Patrick's Donut day, Pie day, icy pole days, pmp, athletics and so on.

We are in the process of organizing some canteen days for this term. There is a pasta day on Wednesday 2nd May. Get onto flexischools.com.au to place your child's order. I am currently in discussions with Subway Keilor Downs about having some special orders. If anyone has any suggestions regarding canteen days, please come and see me.

Please see our flyer for our annual Mother's Day Breakfast. Get your form and money into the office so you don't miss out.

Thanks,

Kellie Doherty and Jenny Melki

THE

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 2nd May. You can order pasta and juice for \$5.50. Get onto www.flexischools.com.au to place your child's order.

Mother's Day Stall- A call for volunteers: please see Kellie. More details soon.

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 14th March, 2018.

If your child/ren are going to be absent from school for any reason, we ask that you log onto the skool bag 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
Deputy Principal

Enrolments for 2019

Enrolments for 2019 are now open. If you are an existing family and have a child coming to school next year, please see Kellie at the front office and we can either send home an enrolment form or email it to you.

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



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jesse.laino@hotmail.com



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/USKQ

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

Please see senior students featured below creating an array of freeze frames during Production rehearsals.

Production rehearsal timetable is as follows

Year 3- Every Friday

Year 4- Every Friday

Year 5- Every Monday

Year 6- Every Monday

Junior school (Year Prep, One & Two) will begin rehearsals with Dance Choreographer Laura at the end of Term 2.

Students are advised to wear their sports uniform to school on Production rehearsal days



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 6th 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**.



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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!

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 9th May – thank you!