

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

Wow! What an exciting and busy 2 weeks it has been here at St Mary MacKillop Primary School. I have spoken to Mr McCluskey who is having a great time in Germany and reassures me he will be back soon with lots of great stories to share about his holiday.

We have had over 120 applications for Prep 2019. Ms Monaghan and I have just finished interviewing all new prospective families for next year. It is humbling to hear so many positive things about our school and to see so many families wanting to come here. It is a credit to all the wonderful staff, students and parents who make our school community what it is. Monsignor and I have gone through the applications and I have sent out our first round offers this week.

I trust that all mothers and grandmothers had a happy Mother's Day on Sunday. Our Mother's Day breakfast was a great success. Many Mother's, Grandmother's and special women in our children's lives came together to share a yummy breakfast. It was lovely to see so many families gathering and enjoying their time together. Thank you to Kellie, Jenny Melki and the School Captains for making our Mother's Day breakfast a great success.

I would also like to thank them and all the mothers who volunteered their time to help at our annual Mother's Day Stall. A special thank you to Skye Rando and Mirella Terranova for setting up and overseeing the stall, it was a great success and I am sure lots of mums got some wonderful gifts.



Upcoming Events

Term 2

Tuesday 15 May-Thursday 17 May

Naplan for Year 3 & 5

Thursday 17 May

First Eucharist Family Meeting at
7.00pm in the Multi Purpose Room in the
school

Thursday 24 May

Casual clothes day-Family week
Gold coin donation

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

Many of our families have already taken up the opportunity to have their children visit the Dental Van which you will see onsite as of next week. If you haven't already replied and would like your child to visit the dental van there is still time to book your child in. Teeth on Wheels will be having an open morning next Monday 21st May between 8.30 – 9am for parents to have a look inside the van. Feel free to come and meet the team and see how the mobile dental van works.

Please find further information and the link to the consent form below.

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...

"May God speed you on your way and bless all your good desires

To Father J. R Kenny 15.5.1901

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

Term 2

Hot Dog Day-Date to be confirmed

Pie Day- Date to be confirmed

Term 3

Pizza Day- Date to be confirmed

Subway Days- Dates to be confirmed

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 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

Teeth On Wheels-The mobile dentist will be here from next week Monday 21 May. If you would like your child to see them and have not completed a permission slip, you can do so by clicking on the link <https://teethonwheels.com.au/consent-eform>



Our school is lucky enough to have Australia's ONLY accredited mobile dentist attend every 6 months

OUCH!

Seeing the dentist every 6 months is so important for children. A recent Royal Children's Hospital study highlighted the following:

- ▶ 1 in 10 Children have had at least one decayed tooth extracted before the age of 9 years
- ▶ 1 in 3 children between the ages of 5 and 6 years have symptoms of decay in their baby teeth
- ▶ 4 in 10 children aged 12 – 14 years have decay in their permanent teeth.

Studies have confirmed that poor dental health impacts on the growth & development of the child along with chewing, swallowing, speaking and can disrupt sleep and productivity. Over time, dental decay has been linked to heart and pulmonary disease, respiratory tract infections and chronic ongoing pain.

Great news – you maybe eligible for free dental
You may not be aware but the Government supports Oral Health via the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) – providing 2 years of free dental up to the value of \$1,000 per child, aged between 2 and 17 years. To be eligible you must be receiving *Family Tax Benefit Part A*. Complete the Teeth on Wheels consent form and our team can advise of your eligibility or contact Medicare General Enquiries direct on 132 011.

We are making the dentist even easier!
Follow the link below to complete your child's online consent form today. By filling out your consent form online you are saving yourself time and helping the Teeth on Wheels team become more environmentally friendly.

teethonwheels.com.au/consent-eform

Remember that consent forms only need to be filled out once per calendar year unless your details have changed.

TeethOnWheels™
a positive dental experience

TeethOnWheelsAustralia #teethonwheels

Phonics and Spelling with David Hornsby

Last Monday 7th May, David Hornsby, an educational consultant hosted a Phonics and Spelling information session with parents. David shared that “Spelling is not about teaching words”, but rather, “Spelling is tied to meaning”. Here at SMMPS we use rich literature texts to teach both phonics and spelling patterns to embed the meaning of words, rather than teaching words in isolation or using spelling lists. In order to help students spell we have to teach them strategies. The five strategies are:

5 Strategies for Solving words	
By Sound (phonemic strategies)	Words we can sound out- using sound to letter knowledge
By Look (visual strategies)	Words we remember by seeing them and using them a lot
By Meaning (morphemic strategies)	Words where I know the units of meaning and can combine them
By connections (linking strategies)	Using existing knowledge about a word to figure out a new word
By Inquiry (research strategies)	Using reference materials to learn more about words (dictionaries, lists etc)

We had a great turn up of parents on the night and we thank you for your continued support. Please read the following from some of the parents who attended the session.

*“As a mum of two children at SMMPS with different learning needs and abilities, I found the information night with David Hornsby to be very informative, insightful and helpful. The main message of the night was, **the sound of the word does not matter, it’s the meaning that does.**”*

“It opened my eyes to look at spelling in a different light.”

“It confirmed what the teacher had already spoken to me about in regards to spelling. I know that the school is on the right track.”

“It has taught me to look at words in context and that meaning is the key.”



Rita Krnac and Anna Yorston

Curriculum Leaders

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2018 for Years 3,5,7 and 9 students will be held today 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

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!

Sarah Cornish
Production Leader

Family Week 2018

Made in the image of God, humans are social beings. It is within the family that we first learn to build loving connections with others, based on the deep knowledge that we are loved.

CatholicCare's theme for Family Week 2018 is **Building Connections; Growing Together**. This year's resources focus on the dynamic concept of Family Wellbeing – how it can be celebrated and strengthened within a school or parish community, and how CatholicCare programs contribute to the wellbeing of families of all backgrounds.

As an expression of the mission of the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Diocese of Sale, CatholicCare's work centres on supporting people who are vulnerable and marginalised. Through its wide range of programs, it seeks to break down the barriers to social inclusion to build a stronger, more resilient society.

Family Week is an initiative of CatholicCare which calls us to consider ways in which we can support families to grow by building connections.

Family Week will be celebrated throughout the Archdiocese of Melbourne from May 14-21. It has been decided, however, that SMMPS will celebrate Family Week the following week, May 21-25.

Classes will be engaged in prayer and other activities focused on the Family. As a Catholic community we need to appreciate the power of prayer. As Pope Francis wrote in his book, *The Allure of Goodness and Love*,

“Dear friends, one of the most effective ways we have to help is that of prayer. Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters . . . and reminds us of a beautiful truth which we sometimes forget. In prayer, we all learn to say 'Father', 'Dad'. We learn to see one another as brothers and sisters. In prayer, there are no rich and poor people, there are sons and daughters, sisters and brothers. In prayer, there is no first or second class, there is brotherhood. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity.”

The following prayer will be used by classes throughout the week. I invite you all to include this in your family prayers this week.

A Family Blessing

Lord God, We thank you for our families,
Those who live with us and those who don't.

Thank you for our brothers and sisters,
help us to live together as a family.

We ask you to forgive us for the times we have been mean to each other,
or forgotten to help one another.

We pray for your help to become closer in our lives together.

We make this prayer for you, Christ Our Lord.

We will have a **Casual clothes day** on **Thursday May 24th**. All children are asked to bring a **Gold Coin donation** and all funds raised will go to CatholicCare to support their incredible work.

Anne-Marie Conte
Religious Education Leader

YEAR FIVE CAMP



YEAR FIVE CAMP



SPORTS NEWS



St Mary Mackillop Athletics Carnival 2018

On Wednesday May 9th all students from Years Four to Six travelled to the Keilor Park Athletics Track to participate in our annual St Mary Mackillop Primay School Athletics Carnival.

The day consisted of students participating in a range of track and field events including Hurdles, 100m sprint, 200m sprint, discus, shot put, high jump and long jump.

We are very proud of all the students who attended. All students tried their very best in each of the events they participated in and showed great enthusiasm and support for their classmates throughout the day.

A special congratulations goes to the students who won an event in their allocated age group and have therefore qualified to compete in the SDPSSA Athletics Carnival in Term 3 (Tuesday 31st July).

The winning house, totaling the most points over the course of the day was awarded to Geoghegan (Blue House), scoring over 400 points!!

A big thank you also goes to all staff and parents who gave their time and assisted us on the day. The day would not have run as smoothly without your help.

Jason Maxwell & Corinne Clarke

Interschool Sports

5/6 Interschool Sports Results – ROUND 10 MMKD vs. CANA

Unfortunately, due to the heavy rainfall last Friday, interschool sport was cancelled for the week. However, students are looking forward to competing again this Friday for Round 11 against Hillside.

Upcoming Sports Events

Round Eleven Interschool Sports (MMKD vs. HILL) – **Friday May 18**

SDPSSA Cross Country - **Wednesday May 23**

Photos from Mother's Day Stall and Breakfast



Year 6-Cyber Safety News

The Year 6's had the amazing opportunity to have the police come over and teach them about cyber safety on the 3rd of May, 2018. They found out that the internet can affect your job income, safety and health.

Internet is something you shouldn't take lightly!

When you post something like a photo on social media, it can be tracked and leaves a mark of what you said and what you sent. It could also reveal personal information about yourself like location, name and daily schedule.

Tips:

Some tips that will help you keep safe on your social media accounts are changing your passwords now and then, searching up appropriate things for your age, not sharing personal information and details, not being rude online and not getting social media until at least 13. If anything does happen, these are the people you can rely on!

People you can rely on:

If something happens on the internet that you aren't comfortable with, these are the people you can discuss your problems with!

~Parents

~Teacher

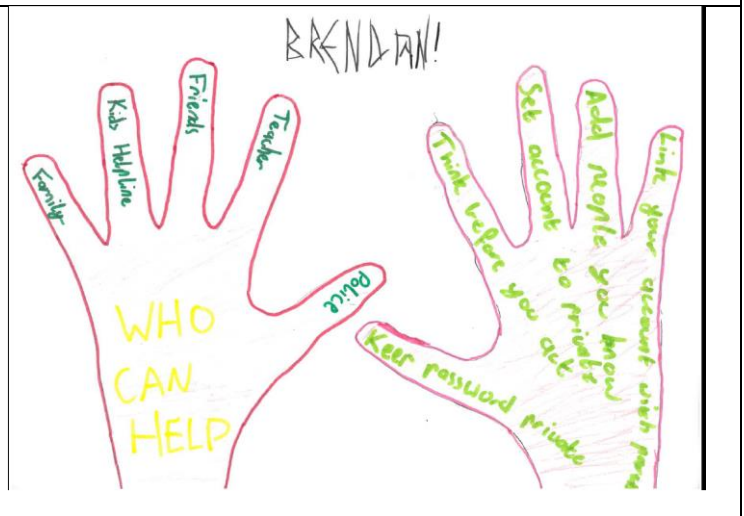
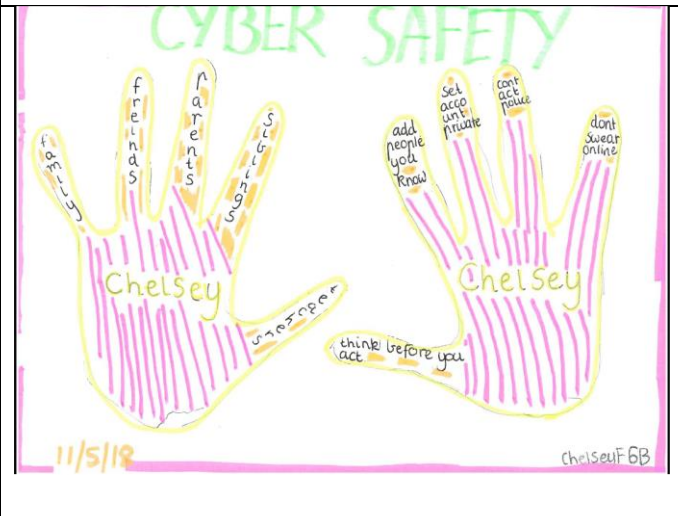
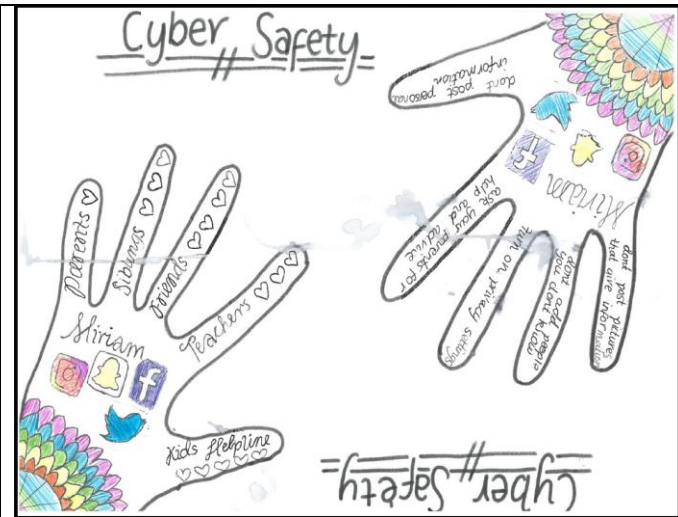
~Kids Helpline

~Police

~Block/Report the person online

Enjoy the internet and remember to always stay safe!

Year 6-Cyber Safety News





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



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2018
THE YEAR OF

Faith



CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE SYDENHAM 380 SYDENHAM ROAD, SYDENHAM



FAMILY TOURS

Thursday 31 May & Thursday 26 July

Commencing at 9.30am followed by morning tea

Register with Mrs Gina Zumbo on 9361 0000 or
enrolments@crtsydenham.net



Have you decided where your child will go to school in Year 11 and 12? Now is the time with growing population in the area and families requesting tours.

At Catholic Regional College Sydenham we serve the Catholic Parishes of this region and as the preeminent Catholic senior secondary College in the Archdiocese we are proudly Catholic. We are already planning for your child and their future pathway so why not come along and see where their education will lead your family. Join the Principal and School Captains for a tour followed by morning tea at Catholic Regional College Sydenham.

