

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Upcoming Events

Term 3

Thursday 30 August

Father's Day Stall

Friday 31 August

Father's Day Breakfast at 7.30am in the Hall-Please note change of venue

Monday 10 to Thursday 14 September

Year 6 Sydney/Canberra Experience

Friday 21 September

End of Term 3-School finishes at 1.00pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

On Tuesday of this week, a facilitator from the Alannah and Madeline foundation, conducted a number of workshop related to children and their use of Social Media.

We organized these workshops to stay on the 'front foot' in educating our children, staff and parents on the values and pitfall of social media and the many opportunities that are out there to engage with social media.

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation was founded by Walter Mikac who tragically lost his wife and two young daughters, Alannah and Madeline, in the Port Arthur shootings back in 1996. The Foundation was established with a focus on keeping children safe from violence. This Foundation responds to the needs of the time and thus are now working with the community to highlight the issues regarding Cyber Safety.

The children from Year Six engaged enthusiastically in their workshop. We now look to expanding these workshops with the Foundation into Years 3-6. However, I will report that we deal with matters of Cyber Safety, age appropriate across all levels of the school.

We also conducted a workshop with the staff, to provide them with some insight into dealing with issues of Cyber Safety and how to support and educate the children. I consider the workshop was also simply beneficial in developing staff awareness.

From the Principal continued over the page.....

*The wisdom of St. Mary
MacKillop
"Be of good heart."*

29.8.1876

We then had 37 parents attend a workshop, which I am sure provided them with some support. We will look to conducting more workshops for parents into the future if the interest is there.

Some websites that maybe of interest in supporting you in the task of navigating Social Media and Cyber Safety include:

www.esmartschools.org.au

www.digitallicence.com.au

www.esafety.gov.au

www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent

www.fzo.io/amf

www.commonsensemedia.org.au

www.videogames.org.au/

As a school community, I consider we have a responsibility in supporting you, as parents and supporting the children in navigating this issue of Cyber Safety.

We need to engage the services of such organisations as the Alannah and Madeline Foundation to assist us in this task.

And as St. Mary MacKillop said repeatedly, *'If you see a need, do something about it.'* Quite simply, we see a need and we are doing something about it.

FATHERS DAY

We look forward to seeing our Fathers and/or other significant males in our children's life, at our Father's Day Breakfast on Friday morning from 7.30am in our school hall. **Note: change of venue.**

I came across this article from Michael Grose Parenting Ideas www.parentingideas.com.au a website, to which I subscribe. As a father and grandfather, I found this article an interesting read. I share the article with you all...

Fatherhood is life-changing. It's a very personal journey that a man experiences when he takes on the responsibility of parenting his kids. It's also a vital role, and it's all too easy to neglect the positive impact a father can have on his children's lives.

Every father's parenting journey will be different, and there is no one-size-fits-all answer to its challenges. But Father's Day is just around the corner, so this is a great time for some tried and trusted parenting tips to help you be the best dad you can be.

Father's Day is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how men shape the lives of their children.

1. Play to your strengths

Fathers often parent in a more active or action-oriented way than mums, so games, play time and physical activity become important parts of a man's parenting repertoire. Your partner may not always appreciate your more active approach, particularly if you play with kids just before bedtime and then leave it to her to calm them down.

How to make it happen: Be yourself, but be smart about it!

2. Lighten up – don't take yourself too seriously

It's easy to get caught up in your own importance, taking yourself and your work too seriously. For many men a bad day at work translates into poor or, at best, distracted experiences when they're with their families. Consider putting a strategy in place, such as exercise, to help you leave work, and the bad moods it may engender, behind.

How to make it happen: Be present in mind as well as in body when you're with your kids.

3. Find something in common with your child

It would be wonderful to say that you can always connect with your kids, but family life is never that straightforward. There'll always be a child who we struggle to connect with, or a developmental stage during which the child feels alien to you. In these times it helps if you share a common interest (such as a love of sport or music) with them, so that you always have something that will bring you together, even though you may not always see eye to eye.

How to make it happen: Take an active interest in what interests your child.

4. Go easy on your son sometimes

Many dads are tough on their boys and have expectations that go way beyond their son's interest and abilities. Remember, it takes boys a little longer to mature. Resist the temptation to turn every game and every father-son activity into a lesson and avoid giving advice when your all your son wants is to be understood.

How to make it happen: See the boy as he is now, not the man you want him to grow up to be.

5. Enjoy the outdoors with your daughter

The biological nature of fatherhood causes most men to be very protective of their daughters. But that doesn't mean you should put your daughter on a pedestal and treat her like a little princess. Expect a lot from her. Play with her, and get her outdoors as it will do wonders for her confidence and independence.

How to make it happen: Enjoy spending time outside with your daughters on a regular basis.

6. Be ready for kids to knock you off your pedestal

Most children in the preschool and middle-to-late-primary school years look up to their dads. "My dad is bigger and better than your dad!" is a type of mantra that's familiar to many men. Make the most of this admiration as the Superman Syndrome won't last. Young children soon turn into adolescents, who generally go to great lengths to prove that you're just Clarke Kent after all. Expect them to stop laughing at your jokes, roll their eyes at your well-intentioned advice and even give you the cold shoulder in public. Ouch! It can be hurtful to a man who just wants to be the best dad he can be.

How to make it happen: Don't take yourself too seriously, and give them room to be grumpy sometimes.

7. Give your kids a compass and a map

One day your children will become truly independent individuals. Don't worry! You won't be irrelevant, you'll just be taking the backseat in a more practical and managerial sense. There are two things you can do to help your kids safely navigate the world when you're not around. First, help them develop a set of positive values including integrity, honesty and respect that will act as their moral compass when they have difficult decisions to make.

Second, reveal your personal story over time, as this narrative will become ingrained like personal map that will guide them when life gets tough. It's good to know that they won't be in uncharted territory when they finally strike out on their own.

How to make it happen: Take the time to tell kids your story and own it – don't make them guess it or learn it from someone else.

Father's Day is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how men shape the lives of their children. It's a very personal reflection as each man's experience of fatherhood is as unique as the children they are raising. Take the time to reflect on your own fathering style as well as the contribution that a father (either your own dad or else's dad) has made to your own life.

Have a good week everybody and Happy Father's Day to all the Dads and Grandfathers in our school community.



Anthony McCluskey
Principal

2018 TERM DATES

Term 3-Monday 16 July-
Friday 21 September

Term 4-Monday 8
October- Wednesday 19
December

Parent Engagement

Subway Days- Now open
on flexischools.com.au
Next date: 07 September,
2018
Orders close this Friday 31st
at 7pm

Pizza Day- Wednesday 19
September. Now open to
order on
flexischools.com.au

SPORTS NEWS

SDPSSA Athletics Carnival 2018

On **Tuesday 14th August** 50 of our Year 4-6 students participated in the Sydenham District Athletics Carnival at Keilor Athletics Track. We had a very successful day, with lots of students walking away with ribbons and smiles on their faces!

We would like to congratulate the following students on their achievements on the day, qualifying to the next round (Division finals) which is held on **Tuesday 4th September**:

Jamie Zeine - 1500m, 800m run
Lily Krzeski - 1500m run
Noah Rody - High jump
Josephine Ibrahim - 100m, 200m sprint
Danae Potter - High jump
Cianah Dal Ben - Long jump, 800m
Liora Acone - Shot put
Tahli Pettenon - Shot put
Jessika Jacobsen - High jump
Emmy Traynor - 1500m run
Sacha Pondeljak - High jump
Alex Galea - 100m relay
Angie Koussoulas - 100m relay
James Mai - 100m relay
Deng Goer - 100m relay

Overall, St. Mary Mackillop finished fourth, which was a great effort! We would like to commend all students for their efforts on the day and wish those going through to the next round the best of luck!

Corinne Clarke & Jason Maxwell



Upcoming Sport Events

Division Athletics Carnival – Tuesday 4th September (Keilor Athletics Track)

Season 2 Interschool Sport Finals – Friday 21st September

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE 2018

On Monday 20th August SMMPs held their annual book character parade in honour of Book Week. It was a wonderful opportunity for the school community to gather together and showcase favourite book characters. The hall was certainly filled with vibrant colours, as well as, creative and imaginative costumes. Thank you to everyone for making the day such a success by ensuring the children came to school dressed as their favourite book characters. It was also great to see many of the students and teachers' outfits inspired by our visiting author Leigh Hobbs.





LEIGH HOBBS RAFFLE



We were fortunate enough to have seven copies of "Mr Chicken goes to London" signed by Leigh Hobbs raffled off on the day.

Congratulations to the winners:

Grace Naguib - Prep Yellow

Brendon Pukaj - 1 Red

Lucas Stoisin - 2 Blue

Edward Oliha - 3 Yellow

Tahli Pettenon - 4 Red

Kiana Hagidmou - 5 Yellow

Estelle Sultana - 6 Red

