

# ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue. Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

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## Upcoming Events

### Term 4

#### **Monday 10 & Tuesday 11 December**

School Closures-2019 Planning Days

#### **Wednesday 12 December**

Christmas Carols at 7.00pm

#### **Thursday 13 December**

Year 6-Big Day In

#### **Friday 14 December**

9.30am-Whole School Thanks

Giving Mass

End of Year Reports available on-line

Year 6 students finish at 1.00pm

(Guard of Honour at 12.45pm)

Graduation in Church at 7.00pm

#### **Wednesday 19 December**

Year Prep-5 finish at 1.00pm

## 2019

### Term 1

#### **Thursday 31 January 2019**

Year 1-6 start at 9.00am

#### **Monday 4 February 2019**

Prep start at 9.30am

**See 2019 Term Dates below**



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

As we prepare to farewell each other for the 2018 school year, we await with anticipation all that a new year will bring us.

However, as I remind the children often; we must always say **'thank-you'** for all that we have been given and for all the goodness to come. In the spirit of our role model, inspiration and patron, St. Mary MacKillop, we are called to live with an **'attitude of gratitude'**.

So with this attitude we pray....

# A Prayer of Thanksgiving



O God, we thank you for this earth, our home;

For the wide sky and the blessed sun,

For the salt sea and the running water,

For the everlasting hills

And the never-resting winds,

For trees and the common grass underfoot.

We thank you for our senses

By which we hear the songs of birds,

And see the splendor of the summer fields,

And taste of the autumn fruits,

And rejoice in the feel of the snow,

And smell the breath of the spring.

Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty:

And save our souls from being so blind

That we pass unseeing

When even the common thorn bush

Is aflame with your glory, O God our creator,

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Walter Rauschenbusch

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In **gratitude**, we say thank you to all teachers and staff for their wonderful care and support they offer towards each other and the children. I am sincere when I say we have one of the best staff teams here at SMMPS!

I offer my sincerest thanks to our school Leadership Team for their dedication and commitment to our school. I acknowledge our Deputy Principal, Mr. Anthony D'Amico and thank him for his professional support and wisdom and for all he does for our school community.

I must thank our Admin Team. This wonderful team is quietly plugging away, achieving so much in keeping the business side of the school running. I know they are always available to support our community and they also provide much support to me as Principal! Thank you!

We are very grateful to all of our Parent Helpers. No matter what way in which you support our school, whether it be assisting in the classroom, attending events, preparing lunches or assisting with our many fundraising efforts... **Thank-you very much!** Your support is appreciated.

Incidentally, our fundraising efforts over this year have raised in excess of \$20,000. Thank you for your generosity. You will see some exciting initiatives next year.

We say thank you to each of the families in our school that show us exceptional trust. We appreciate you choosing to partner with us and we look forward to all that is to come as we continue working together for your kids.

And of course, thank you most sincerely to Monsignor Portelli for his wise leadership and ongoing support. We are most blest to have Monsignor as our Parish Priest.

With a further '**attitude of gratitude**' we give thanks for those of our community who are moving onto new schools and new experiences in 2019.

#### **FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF YEAR 6**

We trust that no matter what school our Class of 2018 move onto next year, each young person will find happiness and friendship as they continue on their learning journey.

Thank you for all you have been for our school and for the many and varied gifts you have brought to SMMPS. God's blessings always.

## FOR ANY BOYS AND GIRLS WHO ARE MOVING ON TO A NEW SCHOOL

We hope that each child leaving us to join another school community finds happiness and security and settles into their new school well.

Thank you for the gift you have been to our school

## FOR ALL FAMILIES LEAVING OUR SCHOOL

Again thank you for trusting us with the care and education of your children, no matter how long you have been with us, we trust you will have fond memories of your time at SMMPS.

## FOR STAFF MOVING ON:

**Ms. Anne Marie Conte (SMMPS 09-18)**

**Mrs. Nadia Boguz (SMMPS 10-18)**

**Ms. Simone Kyle (SMMPS 13-18)**

**Ms. Nicole Marevic (SMMPS 14-18)**

**Mr. Eamonn Murphy (SMMPS 14-18)**

**Ms. Madeleine Wright (SMMPS 17-18)**

**Mrs. Miranda McCluskey (SMMPS 18)**

**Mrs. Nancy Greige (SMMPS 18)**

**Mr. Grant Lewis (SMMPS 18)**

**I acknowledge and thank each of these teachers for their marvelous contribution to the life of our school and to the care and education of your children.**

I particularly and personally acknowledge Anne-Marie Conte who has served as our school Religious Education Leader and has been a wonderful leader and manager of so many happenings here in our school over the past years... from Sacramental Celebrations to Carols to incursions and excursions to school concerts to the Year 6 Sydney/Canberra experience... and the list goes on. Her wisdom and personal support to me, as Principal, will always be appreciated. **We congratulate Anne-Marie on her senior appointment as Deputy Principal at Holy Cross School in New Gisborne.**

Together, we wish each of these fine members of our staff, all the best for their personal and professional lives into the future.

I say to each member of our community that I am sincerely blest to be Principal of St. Mary MacKillop Primary School. I live in a constant **'attitude of gratitude'** for all you are to me and to each other.

I look forward to working in partnership with you into the future... and have we got big plans for 2019! Watch this space!

Have a blessed Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

May God's blessings be on each of us.



**Anthony McCluskey**  
Principal

### **PLEASE REMEMBER**

**THE SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO THE CHILDREN NEXT MONDAY 10 DECEMBER and  
TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2018**

We are committed to preparing for and planning for 2019.

*Thank you for your support.*

### **2019 School Dates**

School begins for students in Years 1 – 6 at 9.00am on Thursday 31 January 2019.

Prep students will begin at 9:30 am on Monday 4 February 2019

#### **Term Dates 2019:**

**Term 1**      Thursday 31 January-Friday 5 April  
**(note: Easter 19-22 April)**

**Term 2**      Tuesday 23 April-Friday 28 June

**Term 3**      Monday 15 July-Friday 20 September

**Term 4**      Monday 7 October-Wednesday 18 December  
(Year 6 students finish on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December)



## **Red Wednesday November 28<sup>th</sup> at St Mary MacKillop Primary School.**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the families who enabled their children to support such a worthy cause. It was an incredible sight to see all of our students dressed in red. When we come together as a community to acknowledge the plight of so many around the world who suffer as a result of their faith it helps us to appreciate how fortunate we are. In Australia we are free to celebrate our faith without fear of attack. This unfortunately is not the case for many people around the world.

Here are some pictures of our school community dressed in Red.



I include a prayer here that you may like to pray as a family.

Anne-Marie Conte

Religious Education Leader

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
as the Good Shepherd,  
You gave Your life for all people.  
You have personally called each one of us to serve.  
In all of us, You continue Your Passion for the redemption of the world.  
It is a grace to carry the cross with the persecuted.  
Grant us love, courage and a readiness to sacrifice so that we can aid and console them.  
Fill us with Your merciful love for one another, so that we also bless our enemies  
and forgive them.  
Thus we want to joyfully testify to Your presence in the world that we may all be one  
and find the fullness of life in You.  
Amen.**

# Mt. Evelyn Year 4 Camp 2018



*"On camp it was lots of fun! I liked all the activities and the cabins. My favourite part was the Giant Swing – I went all the way to the top!" – Maks Pervan*

*"Camp was the best experience whilst staying away from your family. I learnt to push myself a bit further and the food was absolutely amazing!!" – Jean Luc Del A Porte*

*"It was fun and a good experience! We were all happy with who was in our cabin and my favourite part was the Giant Swing!" – Jessica Pukaj*

*"I enjoyed camp a lot because the people that were with me on Camp 2 were very supportive throughout my experience and we enjoyed our time together." – Rand Alsammour*



The Year 4 Camp to Mt. Evelyn was on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Students from 4 Yellow, and half of 4 Blue attended the first night, with 4 Red and the other half of 4 Blue attending the second night.

The Mt. Evelyn Recreation Camp is located in the stunning Dandenong Ranges, surrounded by trees and rainforests. From gentle bushwalks to flying through the treetops on the flying fox, this camp offers a range of fun and activities to accommodate all our students while on camp.

The Year 4 camp is an overnight camp and the first camp students experience here at St. Mary Mackillop Primary School. This camp has been carefully selected to help our students learn valuable life skills, build new relationships and be a part of new experiences they may not otherwise have the opportunity to do.

The Mt. Evelyn camp aims to develop skills of independence, resilience and resourcefulness, whilst supporting their peers in a fun and friendly environment.

This camp works around the notion of "Challenge by Choice." Put simply, this means that students have the choice of how challenging they would like their activities to be. They are not forced to partake in any activities they do not feel comfortable doing.

Camp this year has been an amazing experience for all students and staff who attended. Thank you to the Year Four team for your hard work in preparing students for camp, and all staff who attended and supported our Year 4 students in their first school camp. This would not have been as great an experience if it weren't for your support.

Jason Maxwell & Corinne Clarke







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## Cricket Victoria State Finals 2018

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On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November, the Girls Kanga 8's Cricket team travelled to Section Road in Greenvale to compete in the 2018 State Cricket Finals.

The competition began on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, where we took four teams (two boys and two girls) to compete in the T20 Blast Tournament. This tournament is similar to rugby, where students compete in a round robin style tournament and the winning team progresses to the next round.



We had both our Boys and Girls A teams progress to the North West Metro Finals, located in Windy Hill, Essendon. It was another successful day for both our Boys and Girls teams, once again progressing to the next round, the last round before the state finals. Unfortunately, our Boys team was not so successful on this day and just missed out on progressing. However, our Girls played their best efforts and qualified for the State Finals.

On the day of the State Finals, the Girls played in a pool versus three different teams. Their first game was against the winning team of the State Finals last year. Both teams played exceptionally, with Kalandra Primary School winning by just 10 runs! Our Girls won their next game by 20 runs but then lost their third game in the pool. This meant that they did not progress any further.

Overall, the Girls Cricket Team finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the State. This is a tremendous achievement and we are very proud of our girls for making it this far. What a great way for these Year 6 girls to finish their sporting opportunities before they graduate!

On behalf of Jason and myself we would like to thank these students for their determination, commitment and passion throughout this tournament. These girls attended training sessions regularly, gave up lunchtimes for meetings and supported one another throughout the entire competition. It was a great privilege for us to stand alongside you throughout the entire year.

**A huge congratulations goes to:**

*Cianah Dal Ben, Liora Acone, Georgia Traynor, Sienna Farrugia, Ibiel Pial, Jessika Jacobsen, Amy Gusman,  
Christina Dadaj, Mackenzie Jamieson & Jennifer Ibrahim*

# SPORT AT SMMPS

***"If at first you don't succeed, fix your ponytail and try again!"***



Girls State Rugby Finals, 2018



## Girls Rugby!

Jason Maxwell & Corinne Clarke

This year has been a very rewarding and exciting one for us at St. Mary Mackillop Primary School. Late last term we entered two teams (one male and one female) in a Rugby Tackle Tournament, run by Melbourne Storm.

Throughout this tournament, teams play in a round robin style tournament, where the winning team progresses through to the Rugby State Finals. Although our Boys Tackle Team played exceptionally on this day, and were runners up to the winning team, it was our Girls Tackle Team that won both the crowd and the tournament, progressing to the State Championship Finals.

The Rugby State Finals ran on November 29<sup>th</sup>, in Broadmeadows. The girls won all three games in their pool, qualifying them for the quarter finals, which they also won! The girls played against Cranbourne East in the semi finals. It was such an intense game to watch, with scores level throughout the entire game. Unfortunately, it was Cranbourne East's game as they were the first team to score a try at the start of the game.

Both Jason and I could not be more proud of how our girls played and presented themselves throughout the entire day. To be able to give it all they had in each game and recover so quickly during rest breaks was an exceptional effort.

Congratulations girls, you should be very proud of your efforts! – Mr. Maxwell & Miss Clarke

## St. Mary Mackillop Primary School State Rugby 2018

Jessika Jacobse, Georgina Traynor & Cianah Dal Ben

On Thursday the 22nd of November, the Years 5 & 6 girls got an opportunity to compete in the Billy Slater Rugby State Finals. We would like to firstly congratulate all the girls. We gave it a hard crack and had an amazing day. Thank you to all the teachers that were involved in giving us this wonderful opportunity. Thank you Mr. Maxwell and Miss Clarke for coaching us, cheering us on and being there on the day.

We firstly arrived at Jacana looking forward to a great day. We played an excellent four games, qualifying us for the semi finals, and unfortunately we drew, so it came down to the first try that was scored in the game, which

was the other team. Therefore, we ended up losing but still left with our heads held high because we all did exceptionally well!

Well done to all of you that participated throughout the rugby tournament!

Congratulations to the following girls:

Amy.G, Georgia.T, Jessika.J, Cianah.D,  
Chelsey.F, Sienna.F, Sienna.Z,  
Gurleen.S, Ibiel.P, Jennifer.J,  
Mariexse.D.G, Lily.K, Liora.A,  
Christina.D & Rebecca.H.





## Year 5 80/20 Expo

On Friday 30th November, 2018, the year fives shared their learning at their 80/20 expo. Held in our school's hall, students and parents as well as teachers were able to view and hear about the deep learning that students involved themselves in and it was clear they enjoyed talking about their learning journey. Here are some year five students' views on their learning experiences:



My learning experience has been a journey of experimentation & research. The topic I decided was ELECTRICITY & subtopics about it. It started about learning that lemons can produce electricity when copper and a zinc nail applied to a lemon, I came to the decision to explore that further through the form of electricity and facts to do with my topic. I had made the decision to research 11 subtopics around electricity showing the information inside large light bulbs to express my information furthermore. Whilst I was researching my questions I found out more than I intended to learn. [Apollo Pete, 5 Green]

My learning has been an amazing experience learning how to design a landmark and learning about different cultures as well as the history of landmarks. Although I have learnt so much I was stuck in the learning pit trying to design my landmark on a website that didn't allow me to save my work for more than a week and we only had 80/20 once a week; When I tried to print my work it didn't work. On the week of the expo I had to print out some designs from google but they were similar to mine that I designed on the website so I was still able to showcase my work despite some difficulty and on the 80/20 expo I successfully presented all of my work and learnt even more from the people that came to my expo. [Alessia Iacopino, 5G]





Our learning experience has been an awesome experience learning and discovering new things together while learning about acting and film. Working together has been an experience and a half to enjoy. Although we learnt heaps we still had our times when we were stuck in the learning pit such as not finding the correct information not being able to complete our goals. As we only had 80/20 once a week it was a challenge to complete what we had needed to. Eventually we completed our project and were successful in learning and sharing with others. We really enjoyed our 80/20 experience working with each other, learning new things and sharing our learning with students and parents. [Eva Mercieca & Erica Pinheiro, 5 Yellow]

My 80/20 goal was to learn how to play a guitar. Myself and Sufia worked collaborated to achieve this goal. 80/20 was an amazing and challenging experience this year. For our project we followed the research process as we needed to watch tutorials on how to play the guitar. We also followed the design process to make a mini model of a guitar. The 80/20 expo was very interesting experience for me and my fellow classmates as we all chose topics that would stretch our learning. Throughout the learning process I displayed many dispositions including being collaborative, persistent, self-motivated and reflective. I had a guitar at home that I had never used because I didn't know how to play it and 80/20 gave me the time to explore this interest and develop a new skill. [Kiara Bugeja, 5 Blue]





In semester 2 my 80/20 project focussed on "Cloning & Mutation" supported by a DNA model I eventually made. I had a lot of people visit my presentation because my DNA model was very noticeable. Throughout the learning process I needed to be creative because I needed to think of an interesting way to present lots of information. Furthermore, I was reflective as I tracked my progress and set goals for the next session. I felt very proud of myself because I had put a lot of effort into my project and had come a long way from where I started. Next year's 80/20 I am thinking of my next project to be Gravity followed by Physics. This 80/20 project was up to the year 10 curriculum and next year my 80/20 project will be around the year 12 curriculum. [Thomas Karslake, 5 Blue]

My learning experience on volcanoes has been a great journey and learning how a volcano erupts. Seeing so many people compliment my 80/20 project was so cool. My energy was so high and I was so excited to be sharing my learning. It was so fun learning new things and being more arty with my school learning. I am really proud of my work and my favourite part of the expo was people's smiles when my volcano erupted. I can not wait to do it again next year.  
[by Isabella Sweedman, 5 Red]





My learning experience which was on the pop star Jojo Siwa was great. I wanted to do something I was interested in. I loved when people were listening to my expo, it made me feel happy and proud of my work. On a scale of 1 to 10 I would give my finished product a 10! I am really proud of my work. I worked really hard and I achieved all my goals. My energy levels were a 10 out of 10 and everyone enjoyed my work, even the parents.  
{by Olivia Barbieri, 5 Red}

My learning experience was a challenge but very fun. I am very proud of my final product. Looking around at others, it was clear people had put in a lot of effort. The topic I had chosen was photography. I chose this because I am interested in and it is something I want to learn more about in high school. A challenge for me was the canvas, because I made some mistakes. I am most proud of all the photos I took. My new deep learning was about the history of photography.  
(Mia Tomassi, 5 Red)

My learning experience was interesting, challenging and fun. The topic I chose was Animal mutation and I completed my 80/20 project with Miles. I decided on this topic, because we both are interested in animals and it was something new to research and learn about. The challenges we faced was sewing the different animals together as well as making some parts of the video. I am most proud of everything we achieved. My deep learning was learning how to sew and learning how to use Imovie. While the expo crowded and loud everyone knew their information and was able to present it to different audiences.  
(Milana Chetcuti, 5 Red)





## Outside School Hours Care Program

Dear Families,

### WE ARE GOING GREEN!

The OSHC Program is currently preparing for online digital sign in and direct debits.

All enrolment forms are to be completed online by Friday 14th December.

Families will have received an email from Smart Central with further information and instructions.

Please speak to OSHC staff or Mary Zambara if you have any further questions.

Please be aware that we are closed on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th of December due to the school closure days.

The OSHC program will run from 1.00 pm until 6.00 pm on the last day of the school term. Please text the OSHC Program to book your child in for this session. If your child has a permanent booking on this day please confirm if your child will be attending/cancelling this session.

Please be aware that we are a SunSmart Program and children are required to bring a hat. Please note that the 'no hat, no play' rule will apply.

### Parents please note the following in regards to both cancellations and bookings:

Families are required to notify the Service (OSHC) of any changes to booking arrangements as follows:

Send an **SMS** to the Co-ordinator's mobile on **0450 211 909**

**Before School Care :** By 4.00 pm of the day prior to the absence/booking

**After School Care :** By 11.00 am on the day of the absence/booking

**Families who do not notify the Service of intention to cancel by the required times will be charged the full session fee as the Service operates on a Educator to Child ratio as stated in policy and procedures.**

Thank you for a wonderful year and we wish all families a wonderful Christmas!

Looking forward to seeing you all next year!

From the OSHC Team