

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue. Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

T: 03 9367 6199



Upcoming Events

Term 1

Wednesday 20 February

Year 1-6 Parent Meet and Greet
1.00pm-6.00pm

Thursday 21 February

Year 1-6 Parent Meet and Greet
3.45pm-6.00pm

Monday 25 February - Wednesday 27 February

Year 5 Camp

Friday 1 March and Monday 4 March

School Photos

Wednesday 6 March

Ash Wednesday Mass at 12pm

Monday 11 March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 12 March

School Closure Day - The
Intervention Framework - see below

Thursday 14 March

Year 3 First Reconciliation - 7pm

Wednesday 20 March

Families as Partners in Learning
1.30pm-3.00pm or 7pm-8.30pm - see
flyer

Friday 05 April

Last day of Term 1 - school finishes
at 1.00pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

Wow! This school year seems to be happening so fast! As we move further into our term, I am pleased to report that most children, have in the main, settled into their class groups. The prevailing sense of a calm and respectful school culture is evident as we wander around the school and see the children engaged in their various learnings and activities.

School life is very much about:

- **Learning to be** (*learning to know oneself*)
- **Learning to know** (*gaining knowledge*)
- **Learning to do** (*developing skills*)
- **Learning to live together** (*learning to relate to others*) **and**
- **Learning to change** (*being prepared to learn and change.*)

Within a Catholic context our school:

- **Promotes the dynamic vision of God's love**
- **Recognises and nurtures the spirituality of each person**
- **Creates an environment which engages the children in quality learning experiences**
- **Works in partnership with families and the wider community, creating an authentic experience of connectedness.**

We are privileged to be a school in the name of St. Mary MacKillop. The Spirit of St. Mary MacKillop permeates our school in all we do and say. Mary was an ordinary woman living an extraordinary life. She was born in Brunswick St, Fitzroy in 1842. Mary was the eldest of eight children and lived in poverty. In 1856 Mary was sent to Penola in South Australia where she began working as a governess, looking after her cousins and some local children. In this way she was able to raise money for her family. It is in Penola where Mary opened a school in a stable to educate children living in poverty in the area.

A number of women saw the work Mary was doing and with the support of the local Parish Priest, Fr. Julian Tennison Woods, Mary established a new religious group of Sisters, under the patronage of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

By 1871, more than 120 women had joined the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Mary established schools and orphanages. Mary lived with the poor. She had a particular concern for women and children living in poverty.

Mary died in North Sydney in 1909. Mary was recognised as universal saint for the church in 2010 by Pope Benedict.

Mary had a simple motto:

'Never see a need without doing something about it.'

This is the motto by which we live at our school.

I am delighted when I hear our children singing a song reflecting on this motto, taught to them by Lucy Vassallo, our Religious Education Leader.

Never see a need without doing something about it,

Never see a need without lending someone a hand.

Always take the time to help someone else,

Never take for granted what you have yourself.

So take a little time and just share a little love around.

Help those in need,

Reach out to the poor.

Make your attitude of justice be your cause.

And herein lies the spirit of our school....

Let us all work together this year, making sure if we see a need we do something about it.

Have a great week everybody.



Anthony McCluskey
Principal

2019 Term Dates

Term 1: Thursday 31 January-Friday 05 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 13th December)

PARENT/TEACHER MEET and GREET

It is really important that you take the time to meet with your child's class teacher for 2019. Remember, SMMPS **Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet is scheduled for:**

Tomorrow-Wednesday 20 February 1.00pm- 6.00pm

Thursday 21 February 3:45pm- 6:00pm

Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet is an ideal opportunity for you to tell us something about your child. You may wish to discuss social and emotional needs, academic strengths and weaknesses, health issues etc. we want to know your child and who better to tell us about your child, than you the parent.

There is no need to schedule a meeting if your child is in Prep, as Prep teachers are meeting with parents on Wednesdays over the next weeks.

If you have not already booked a time with your child's teacher, you will need to see the teacher direct as the online booking system has closed.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

We have scheduled a School Closure for Tuesday 12 March. This is a day, in which all staff attend to undertake professional learning. The school is closed to children.

On this day we will be undertaking three on-line modules of Professional Development. This PD explores 'The Intervention Framework'. This framework will assist us in providing the right strategies to work towards ensuring success for all children, no matter where they are on their learning journey.

Catholic Education Melbourne reminds us that 'At the heart of the work for Catholic Educators is the formation of each young person... Catholic schools are committed to fostering inclusive practices which respond to learning diversity so that all students are actively engaged in learning and experience success.

Horizons of Hope: Learning Diversity in a Catholic School, p.4. 2017

COMMUNICATION

Communication between the school and home is vital.

Please make sure you supply an up to date mobile numbers and email addresses to the school office.



Newsletter-A comprehensive and detailed Newsletter, is emailed to parents and carers every second Tuesday. It is also available on our website. www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au or our skoolbag app.



Skoolbag- Is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all school communications. If your child is absent due to illness, an appointment, a family holiday etc, you can complete an eform via the app.

Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and **all** school communications.

- 1 Download the app**
Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store
- 2 Create an account**
Sign up in seconds with your email address
- 3 Add your school**
Search for your school and add your subscription groups




SkoolBag



Care Monkey- Is an innovative parent controlled electronic medical form for schools with a duty of care. It's an electronic version of the paper based forms you would normally complete for excursions, camps, enrolments, etc. It provides parent's the opportunity to update medical information promptly and accurately while providing the school with instant access to the emergency information provided by you.

CareMonkey offers the school and families the following:

- Up to date emergency information
- Mobile access
- Electronic permission forms
- Multi-use care profile for families

You can download the free CareMonkey app for iPhone and Android smartphones, iPad and Android tablets and have access to your family care profiles on these mobile devices. For further information on the features please visit the website: <http://www.caremonkey.com>

SHE WHO SUCCEEDS



Applications for Year 7 in 2021 close on Friday, 23 August 2019.

Find out more by visiting our website at www.avemaria.vic.edu.au

Catholic Regional College North Keilor

Education In Faith...Education for Life

Year 7, 2021 - Enrolment Now Open

Enrolment Information Evening - 7pm Wednesday 20 March, 2019



Faith



Compassion



Resilience



Respect

College Tour Dates - Term 1, 2019.

Tuesday 26 February, Thursday 7 March, Friday 15 March, Tuesday 26 March at 9.15am

*Wednesday 20 March - Evening Tour 6.15pm

Bookings essential for all Tours. Please contact Mrs Samantha Beg, College Registrar

Phone: 9361 5904 or Email: enrol@crnk.vic.edu.au



Catholic
Regional College
North Keilor

1c Santa Monica Drive
Keilor Lodge VIC 3038
Phone: 03 9361 5900
www.crnk.com.au

2019 the Year of
Resilience

PARENT FACILITIES

If parents/carers or toddlers supervised by their parent or carers or need to use a WC, we request that you do not use the children's' toilets. We have installed a new WC in the hallway next to the sickbay. This WC is for the use of parents/carers or toddlers supervised by their parent or carers.

We have made this request as this action also supports our child safety initiatives. In short, if a staff member sees an adult in the children's WC, they know to inquire and direct the adult to the correct facility.

CAR PARK and drop off and pick up

I ask you to remain ever vigilant in using the school grounds for dropping off, picking up and parking. Do not double park or speed. Move very slowly as little children are running everywhere and as we know are most unpredictable.

IT IS TO YOU AS DRIVERS PARKING OR WAITING FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND YOU AS PARENTS or CARERS WALKING YOUR CHILDREN THROUGH THE CAR PARK TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE.

As a courtesy, our staff are circulating, but it not their responsibility to remind you of basic manners on the road or in the car park.

If everyone cooperates we will continue to have a safe school. THANK-YOU

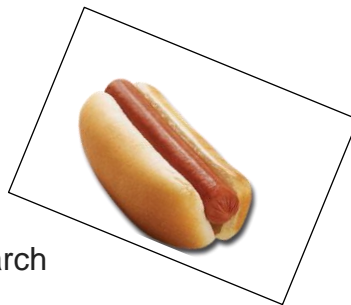
Just some reminders:

-the rear carpark needs to be cleared by 9:10am as Phys.Ed. and Sport Lessons begin at this time.

-the back car park gate is locked at 9:15 am and re-opened at around 2.30pm to 2.45 pm.

Canteen Days-Term 1

Hot Dog Day-28th February
Subway Day-7th March
St. Patrick's Day Green Donuts-18th March
Pie Day- 3rd April



All orders must be done on flexischools.com.au.

If you have never used flexischools, get on and set up an account and it will debit your bank account or creditcard.

Religious Education News

Vol 1 Feb 19 2019

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to have such a warm welcome from everyone here at St Mary Mackillop primary school. I am looking forward to working in partnership with you in nurturing the faith life of your child/ren and in your families. I do have a few projects in mind that will need the support of parent volunteers. If you are interested in helping out, please send me an email. Here's some RE news!

ASH WEDNESDAY Whole School Mass March 6 at 12.00pm

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. On this day we receive the cross of ashes on our foreheads. This is a powerful sign which reminds us and tells our friends that we know we are not perfect and that we want to become more like Jesus in our words and actions. Lent is a season of the Church year where we are asked to reflect on our lives and the choices we make. We focus on spending more time in prayer, almsgiving (acts of charity towards others) and fasting.



Be strong, and turn your life toward God.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FAMILY NIGHT



We had great attendance at the Reconciliation Family night last Wednesday. Our facilitator, Maria Forde, gave a very thoughtful and prayerful presentation about this sacrament and the power of God's healing in our lives.

We pray for our Year 3 students and their teachers as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.



SMMPs CHOIR

Students from Years 3 – 6 are invited to join the SMM Choir. The choir will rehearse every Wednesday at the first half of lunch time. The choir will support the school in leading songs for our school liturgies. It is very exciting to see so many students interested in taking part. Children can come and try out to see if they like to join or not. Looking forward to creating a culture of singing throughout our school!



Be calm and full of hope! (SMM)

Lucy Vassallo
Religious Education Leader
lvassallo@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

LEARNING AND TEACHING

Term 1 Overviews

Please take a look at our school website to view our online Term Overviews, that can be located under the Learning and Teaching tab. These overviews provide an insight into the learning that is occurring in all curriculum areas. Take the time to read and discuss them with your child/ children.

Progressive Reporting using Seesaw

At SMMPS we value family partnerships in learning and engaging families in the life of a school. This year all teachers will be using Seesaw as a platform to build a comprehensive record of student learning across all curriculum areas. We know as a school community many of you have already embraced the **Seesaw** initiative as a way to see how your child is progressing.

Teachers will post photos or videos that document your child's learning as it develops. This is another way of **reporting** your child's progress. Families will then have an opportunity to leave a comment to acknowledge and celebrate their child's achievements, thus strengthening the home / school connection.

Please ensure you have downloaded the Seesaw App and have a Seesaw login. If you are unable to do this, see your child's classroom teacher. We look forward to working together to celebrate your child's growth overtime and building a valuable record of learning.

Rita Krnac
Leader of Learning and Teaching



Families as Partners In Learning

At SMMPS we value family / school partnerships as a way of working together collaboratively to nurture and support your child's learning journey. These partnerships are a great way to connect learning at home and at school. In fact, research suggests that students do better at school when families are involved in their child's learning.

With this in mind, we will be hosting an afternoon and evening session with our English Leader, Anna Yorston and Maths Leader, Aaron Kuras on how you can best support your child at home with learning. Anna and Aaron will provide you with helpful tips and handy hints when it comes to Reading, Spelling, Times Tables etc.

WHEN: Wednesday, 20th March

TIME: Session 1: 1.30pm-3pm

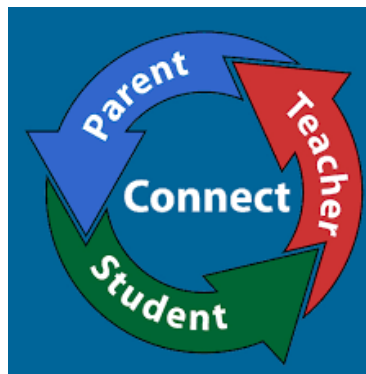
OR

Session 2: 7pm - 8.30pm

WHERE: Venue to be confirmed

SAVE this date in your diary and look out for more information to come via CAREMONKEY.

Rita Krnac-Leader of Learning and Teaching



Our Buddy Programme

This year the year 6 students will be participating in the Prep Buddy Programme. Last week the year 6 students met with their Prep buddies and got to know them! The Preps were so excited, they ate lunch together outside on the decking and they couldn't wait to see them out on the yard!

We look forward to the year 6 students supporting the Preps both in the classroom and on the yard during their transition to school.

This is another opportunity for the year 6 students to demonstrate their leadership skills. We can't wait to share all the wonderful experiences that will be happening in our buddy programme!



WELCOME TO THE

The word 'LIBRARY' is written in a playful, colorful font where each letter is designed to look like a book. The letters are: L (green), I (brown), B (red), R (white), A (pink), R (blue), and Y (blue). Each letter has a small book-like detail, such as a spine or a bookmark.

Introduction to Library Media Specialist with Samantha Kelly

Welcome to the newest specialist classes for St Mary Mackillop School - Library Media! For those who don't already know me I have been a classroom teacher for many years and have completed my Masters in Teacher Librarianship (Information Systems and Search Processes). This has allowed me to introduce the role at the school to further add to the learning and teaching of students from Prep to Year 6.

Utilising the Library as a learning space will enable students to deepen their Inquiry knowledge, skills and dispositions through stories, information, media and digital literacy! We will be further exploring Inquiry topics, focusing on various curriculum areas linked to each unit. You can find a brief description of each year level's focus on the Term Overview available on our website. I will be working closely with curriculum leaders to provide both students and teachers with quality learning and resources across the curriculum.

The Library continues to be a place that endeavours to instill a love of reading so borrowing remains an integral part of these sessions. I will also be opening the Library at set lunchtimes for a variety of purposes including browsing, borrowing, reading and research, playing board games, puzzles or drawing as an alternative space to spend 'downtime'. Students from particular levels will be informed of these times and days as they occur.

I look forward to working with each and every class this year! I will be available in the Library during the **Parent Meet & Greet times both Wednesday and Thursday this week**. Feel free to drop in and say hello!

Samantha Kelly

Year 5 Incursion – Science Discovery Dome

On Wednesday 13th February, the Year 5 students were lucky to have the 'Science Discovery Dome' attend our school. The dome is a portable planetarium. We were placed into groups. While one group was in the dome, the other groups were involved in a variety of activities that demonstrated natural disasters. These activities included: small versions of natural disasters simulating what would happen in real life. We watched videos and filled a sheet on the information from the videos and simulation about natural disasters. The natural disasters were: tsunami, mud slides, earthquakes and cyclones. All the classes went in one room and got computers and books to research information to fill in their data sheets as much as they can with the information they gathered. There were a total of 4 groups that went in the dome. 2 groups learnt about weather and 2 others learnt about geological natural disasters. The dome was filled with information from images and videos of natural disasters and how they work. It was a new experience and we learnt heaps.



From Duc Nguyen and Xavier 5Y



On Wednesday 13th February, the Year 5s had an amazing day. We got split up into groups. One group was in the Discovery dome while everyone else researched or carried out experiments. The dome had images and video all around the screen. It was so much fun. We got to learn about different natural disasters, including earthquakes, floods and cyclones.
By Liana Mandoorla 5 Red

On Wednesday the 13 February, We had a fin event. We were all split into four groups and took turns in the dome. The dome had videos and images projected on the walls. It was cool!! While we waited our turn in the dome, we did some science experiments and researched using Chromebooks and books. We learnt about what natural disasters are, their causes and impact. We learnt about cyclones, volcanoes, earthquakes. I had an amazing time.
By Mia Meskovski 5 Red

