## No. 08. 22 May 2019

# ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue. Keilor Downs, Vic 3038 www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au T: 03 9367 6199

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Community,

# **SPECIAL EDITION**

#### We offer our sincerest congratulations to the young people in Year Six who were Confirmed on Saturday 18 May 2019.

We were proud to welcome Bishop Mark Edwards O.M.I. to SMMPS. Bishop Mark conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on the candidates, whom are now the newly confirmed. Bishop Mark visited with the children a couple of weeks ago. He engaged with the children in a wonderfully warm and instructive manner. He then joined with the children for a group photo and prayer before the celebration. He was aware the children may have been a little nervous. However, he encouraged them to "breath in peace and breath out worry." He then had the children practice this strategy to relax. Bishop Mark did a great job!

It was a wonderful day of celebration. We trust all families appreciated the Mass of celebration where the Sacrament was conferred. We also trust that the family gatherings that followed were enjoyable for the children and their families.



# **Upcoming Events**

#### <u>Term 2</u>

Wednesday 22 May Year 3 Eucharist Family Night at 7.00pm

Wednesday 29 May Learning Conversations 3.45pm-6pm

**Thursday 30 May** School finishes at 12.30pm Learning Conversations 1pm-6pm

Saturday 22 June Year 3 Sacrament of First Eucharist-12.30pm and 2.30pm

Friday 28 June End of Term 2-School finishes at 1pm

Page 1 of 10

We thank Bishop Mark, Monsignor Portelli, our Parish Priest, and Fr. Chandler. We also acknowledge and thank our teacher's who prepared the children. They worked with commitment, dedication and passion to prepare the children to receive the Sacrament.

Thank you to Lucy Vassallo, Sarah Fogarty, Jasmine McIlvena, Linda Nguyen and Stephanie Raymond. We also thank our musicians, Celebrating with Harmony, who brought much life to the celebration.



Thank you to all parents and guardians for your support with our School Closure on Monday. It was a valuable day of learning for our staff. Thank you for your trust and cooperation. It is appreciated.

Have a good week everybody,

Muchey

Anthony McCluskey

Principal

Page 2 of 10

#### **Congratulations Girls and Boys**

# CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

#### 12.30 pm ceremony

6 Blue & 6 Green Alana Bergam Kiara Bugeja Jessica Camilleri Isabella Cassar Felicity Chau Alexander Csizmadia Karly De Battista Zac D iFiore Teresa Di Pasquale Duang Duang Nicholas Esposito Isabel George Deng Goaer Amy Gusman Jacob Iacobaccio Mia Ibarra Thomas Karslake Petar Kasalo Monique Keenan Jin Limpin Shelemiah Manalo Jordan Muscat Lucas Nobile Jacob Pagliaro Calvin Phan Sacha Pondeljak Danae Potter Noah Rody Celeste Sotelo Isabella Sweedman Mia Tomassi Mikaela Tran Avril Vas

<u>BLESSING</u> Nicholas Duvcevski

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES 3.00 pm ceremony 6 Red & 6 Yellow Markus Antunovic-Spehar Lucas Attard Miles Attard Olivia Barbieri Carolina Biviano Lauren Borg Katarina Bozanic Noah Brink Melina Calidonna Aaron Camilleri Milana Chetcuti Duc-Hieu Cao Ajak Daw Alayna Denkel Sienna Dicosmo Tiana Dicosmo Roseleen Dudi Amelia Fenech Alex Galea Levi Gambian-Lugli Sienna Giglio Alessia Iacopino Dante Iuele Joshua Jones Michael Kisielewski Aiden Lautier Eva Mercieca Matthew Muratore Apollo Pete Erica Pinheiro Lucas Sant Michaela Sapuppo Ethan Scollo Michael Simic Jack Tsiaras Abigail Webster

**BLESSING** 

Emma Bosevski Edan Gregory

Page 3 of 10

#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### Australian Catholic Primary Principals Congratulate the Coalition Government

May 21, 2019

The Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association has joined with other key educational stakeholders across the country to congratulate the Liberal National Coalition on their win in the recent election.

ACPPA President, Brad Gaynor says, "We wish the Morrison Government well in ensuring future policies affecting education and school students in particular, are thorough in detail and in the best interests of each and every child educated in this great country of ours."

"Over recent times there has been much speculation and discussion around fair and equitable funding for students in non-government schools and we now hope for stability and consistent action to allow teachers and Principals to be fully and properly supported to educate Australia's future".

ACPPA acknowledges and thanks those Ministers who have supported Catholic Education over many years and want to continue to build strong relationships with both current and new Ministers.

We look forward to working closely with the Government in education policy, especially with the Education Minister, to bring long lasting and sustainable change for Catholic schools, and all schools, in their important work.

The Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association (ACPPA) represents over 1200 Catholic Primary School Principals across Australia.

#### Woolworths Earn & Learn

SMMPS is collecting the earn & learn stickers. Please send them to the office. We have spare sheets if you need them.



Page 4 of 10

#### Peer Tutoring Update

Peer Tutoring is well and truly underway. The students meet together 3 afternoons per week for 15 minutes. There is a lot of reading happening and the students enjoy learning from each other. The Yr 6s are demonstrating great leadership skills and are a positive role model for their Yr 2 buddies.



Anna Yorston-Literacy Leader



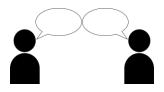
SAINT MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL 152 ODESSA AVENUE KEILOR DOWNS, VICTORIA, 3038 Principal: Anthony McCluskey





PREP 2020 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN For all enquiries please contact Kellie on: 9367 6199 or email: kdoherty@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au Visit our Website to discover our school: www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

#### Page 5 of 10



## Learning Conversations

This year we are moving away from traditional parent - teacher conversations at the end of term by adding an opportunity for **progressive reporting led by the student** in the middle of the term (Week 6). Students will take on an active and lead role during these meetings. We are trialling this model of reporting to highlight student voice and an insight into their learning and to make the shift towards student ownership throughout these conversations.

In the learning conversations your child will do most of the talking (supported by their classroom teacher, if needed) as they share work they are proud of and discuss their progress. It is a great opportunity for your child to reflect on their own learning, whilst increasing pride in their achievements.

**Role of the student** - to promote ownership of their learning and share work samples they are proud of, highlight their strengths or show improvement.

**Role of the parent** - to listen, praise and encourage your child's efforts, as well as, ask questions for clarification and elaboration.

Role of the teacher - to facilitate the conversation and contribute any comments or questions.

In an effort to make these Learning Conversations beneficial below is a list of prompts you may like to use:

- I am pleased to see your effort in ....
- I am proud of your improvement in .....
- What makes this your best work in ....
- How did you go about doing it ?
- Did you encounter any problems?

The student led conversations will run for 15 minutes. Please note, there will be no formal meetings with parents at the end of the term (unless they are arranged PSGs) and reports will be available via the school portal on **Friday 28th June**.

The dates and times for these conversations are: Wednesday 29th May 3:45-6:00 pm AND Thursday 30th May 1:00-6:00 pm.

Therefore students will finish school on Thursday 30th May at 12:30 pm. Please refer to note sent out on Care Monkey for care arrangements.

Bookings to be made via the <u>www.schoolinterviews.com.au</u> website using the code **bfhag**.

The link and code has also been sent out via Care Monkey.

Page 6 of 10

# **FEES and LEVIES**

I appreciate all the families that pay their Fees and Levies up front or in instalments. I also appreciate any family that talks with us about hardship and works with SMMPS to pay some regular contribution. Thank you to all our families who take their obligation and responsibility to pay their way seriously.

As you may be aware, we are continuously updating and improving our buildings and facilities, so we can give your kids the very best. Have you checked out the Penola refurbishment or our new playground and soft fall? These projects cost us around \$300,000. We now have to pay for them and ensure we have cash flow in our school!

We need to now refurbish a very tired and shabby Year 2 and 3 building, which we call Mary of the Cross. Our Junior Toilets also need a complete refurbishment. We are looking to take a loan for \$500,000 to undertake these projects, however we have to show we have the capacity to repay any loans we wish to take out.

#### I will be writing to all families that are not paying their Fees and Levies. I will be reminding them of their obligation and commitment to pay their way. It is only fair and just when so many families do make a real effort. I will then be referring families who are not paying to a debt collector service.

It amazes me when I hear of overseas holidays and see expensive cars in the car park, but still no Fees and Levies are paid.

Ultimately if we don't get the Fees and Levies we expect, we will need to start making cuts to services and programs. First things to go will be excursions and sporting programs followed by additional programs. Alternatively, I would hate to have to exclude children whose families don't pay. It's not fair on them, as they are only children, but please understand, we need you to pay your way.

I don't want to make cuts to staff and increase class sizes, but we are a business and we need the money you commit to paying when you enrol in our school. We cannot effectively offer what we do otherwise.

When it is all broken down we only ask \$10.06 per child per school day. Come on, that's absolutely nothing. It's two cups of coffee or a trip to MacDonald's and I have never got out of McDonald's under \$10.00!

I understand how hard it sometimes can be to find the money. I put three kids through Catholic primary and secondary schooling and now I am supporting my grandchildren's education. No matter the difficulty or stress, I have always paid my way.

SMMPS is a great school with an excellent reputation in the local community and beyond. SMMPS was independently reviewed in 2017 by the Australian Council for

Page 7 of 10

Educational Research, using the National School Improvement Tool. We were found to be in the **top 6% of Primary Schools nationwide**, who have undertaken this particular review. **SMMPS is considered to be a HIGH PERFORMING to OUTSTANDING SCHOOL.** 

If you continue to pay your way, we can keep striving towards being the best school we can be for your children.

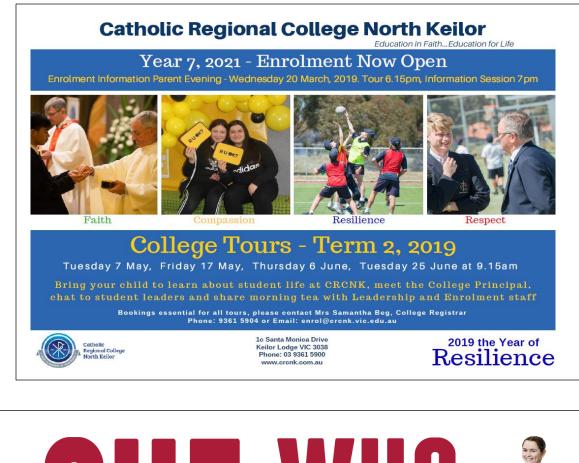
IT REALLY IS QUITE SIMPLE... COME AND PAY YOUR FEES and LEVIES BEFORE THE END OF TERM.

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Page 8 of 10

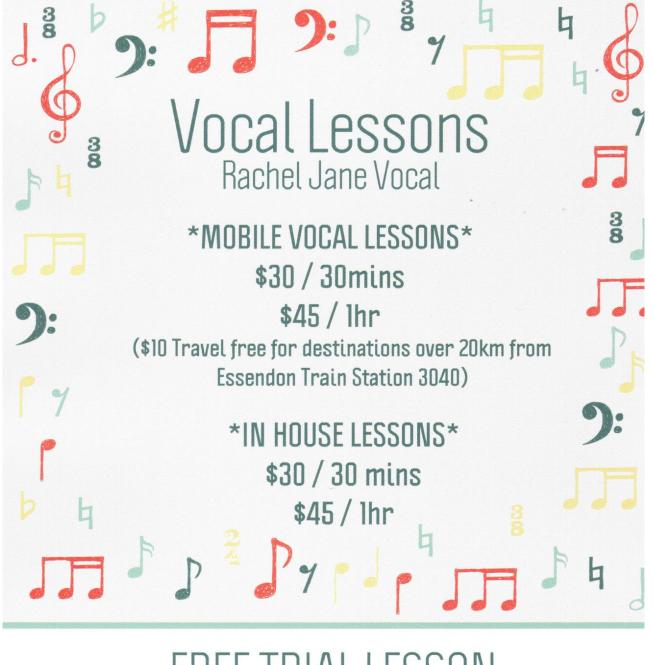
## Canteen Days for Term 2 – Order on flexischools.com.au

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May-Cookie Day	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June-Donut Day
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> May-Pasta Day	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June-Hotdog Day
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June-Subway Day	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June-Hamburger Day





Page 9 of 10



# FREE TRIAL LESSON

Contact us Phone: 0423568160 OR Email: rachdeb9@gmail.com



Page 10 of 10