

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Dear Community,

The year is flying by... we have recently enjoyed our **Year 6 Sydney/Canberra Trip**, which was as always, a resounding success. I am most grateful to our wonderful students for their outstanding cooperation and engagement. **I am grateful to our very generous staff members who gave up their week, away from their homes and families to accompany and care for our Year 6 students. Thank you to** Sarah Fogarty, Jasmine McIlvena, Linda Nguyen, Stephanie Raymond, Anthony D'Amico, Sandra Lind, Lucy Vassallo, Connie Simiele, Jason Maxwell, Corinne Clarke and Kellie Doherty. This is a big ask and so I offer the team our most heartfelt gratitude. Their professionalism and dedication is second to none.

I must particularly thank Heath Thomas, who saves us a great deal of money, through his work in arranging the camp. I can assure you, his work means great savings, as compared to using travel agents. Heath books travel, accommodation, restaurants, meals and venues to visit. This is no easy task. And he is already onto it for next year!

See the reports from year 6 students below.

Carnevale was a great success. The children had an enjoyable day of activities and particularly enjoyed their Gelato. This fun day of learning reinforces all that the children learn in Italian, which is SMMPS focus in Languages other than English (LOTE). **Thank you to Sarina Commisso** (LOTE teacher) who organised this wonderful day.

Year Four Camp to Mt Evelyn, YMCA is coming up on next Wednesday 22 November to Friday 24 November. This experience supports the children in developing their independence and resilience in an unfamiliar environment, with the care of their teachers. It promises to be a great experience for the children in Year 4.

There are lots of things happening in Admin at the moment. Whilst we are very much still in the business of this school year, we are working to arrange dates and happenings for 2020. We are also busy interviewing and employing staff for 2020. I ask your prayers that we get that right! Perhaps that's my greatest stress. I appreciate that the teachers we choose to work in our school have the immense responsibility of caring for and educating your children. We work with determination in checking valid references and meeting with them to make sure all candidates chosen are the right fit for SMMP.

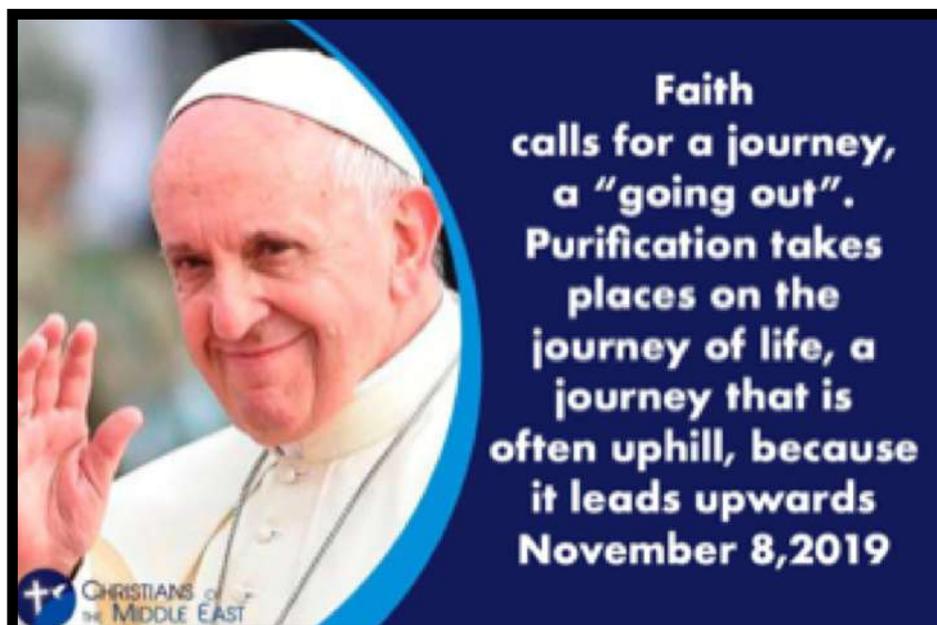
The school is closed to all children on Thursday 5 December and Friday 6 December. On these two days all staff, together with our new staff members will be meeting to plan for 2020. One of our tasks will be to engage in a process whereby we will compile transition notes on all children, so we place the children in the right cohort for 2020. We look at academic achievement and social capabilities and then try and choose the best teacher for your child.

Teachers are placed in various levels to address the needs of the school each year. The cohorts of children factor into that equation.

Teachers are busy compiling end of Year Written Reports, whilst continuing to educate and care for your children. Please check the **list of upcoming events below**.

All and all it is full steam ahead, in our great school.

I came across this comment from our Pontiff recently. It resonated with me, so I have chosen to share it with you.



And... OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES!

From a child in a Prep class to his teacher...

Child, "Wait a minute, is Jesus dead?"

Teacher, "Yes, remember he was alive, then he died on Good Friday and came back to life on Easter Sunday. After 40 days he went back to be with God."

Child, "Mmm... probably safer there!"

Don't you just love the way they think!

Have a great week everybody and go gently.



Anthony McCluskey
Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



news

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Stand firm and you will win life
(Jesus, Luke 21:19)

Photo by [Nick Gardner](#) on [Unsplash](#)

YEAR 5 EXCURSION TO ST MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE

On Wednesday the 9th of October the Year 5s went to the city to visit the St Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, St Mary MacKillop's birthplace, and St Patrick's Cathedral.

The bus ride took us through the freeway and into the city where the people at the Heritage Centre were patiently awaiting our arrival. Upon our arrival we were greeted by three kind Sisters of Saint Joseph who took us on an expedition around the Heritage Centre.

The Heritage Centre was filled with various artifacts about St Mary MacKillop and her life. The year level was split into 2 groups, one went to the Heritage Centre and the others went to St Mary MacKillop's Birth Site and the Cathedral.

My group was lucky enough to see St Mary MacKillop's actual wheelchair. This was the chair that St Mary MacKillop spent the last few years of her life after suffering a stroke. There were many artifacts about her life and we got to sit in the chapel that St Mary MacKillop would have prayed in on numerous occasions. It was interesting to learn more about this amazing saint of ours. We also learnt that the house was a house of Providence. St Mary MacKillop built this house to help and provide for those who were homeless or needed a safe place to live.

Visiting the birth site of St Mary MacKillop was another highlight. We saw a historical plaque of Saint Mary MacKillop which included when she was born, where she was born, when she died and where she died. It was a peaceful place to visit and knowing that we were standing where she actually lived made it even more special.

Our learning experience was amazing. After lunch we all met up and attended mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. We then took photos of our surroundings and spotted the statue of Archbishop Mannix, Saint Mary Mackillop, Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Catherine of Siena. The day was filled with lots of deep learning and discoveries.

Writers are: Duc, Sienna, Giada and Rand from 5Y

Saint Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre

On Wednesday the 9th of October, the Year 5 students went on an excursion to the Saint Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre in the city and also visited the birth site of St Mary MacKillop. It was so amazing to visit the place where Mary was born. The Sisters of St Joseph showed us around, told us about the great history of Saint Mary MacKillop, Fr Tension Woods and the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Did you know that Saint Mary MacKillop was excommunicated when she stood up for what she believed in?

We had our lunch at Australian Catholic University. Throughout the day we also attended mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral and this was another awesome experience. Saint Patrick's Cathedral is the tallest and largest Church in Australia. Overall it was an amazing day and all the Grade 5 students experienced a day that connected us to our patron saint, St Mary MacKillop and to our Catholic Faith.



ENVISION BOTTLE TOP COLLECTION

Many thanks for collecting bottle tops for Envision. They the organization has stopped collecting bottle tops at this stage. They have received 5,000,000 and their target was 2,000,000.



ST.MARY MACKILLOP
Primary School Keilor Downs

Year 4 2019 **St Vincent De Paul** **Christmas Collection** **OUR ADVENT ACTION!**

As a Catholic school we follow in the footsteps of Jesus and St Mary MacKillop by reaching out to those in need.

We would like your support in donating items that can be used to make up Christmas Hampers for those in need in our local community.

We are working in partnership with St Vincent De Paul (Vinnies) to have these hampers prepared in time for Christmas.

Each class will be collecting items until
13th of December 2019

Your donations can include:

Chocolate biscuits, Christmas biscuits, Small Christmas pudding, tinned or packet food, Christmas napkins, Christmas, bons bons, Christmas socks, Shampoo & Conditioner, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Soap - hand soap, Hand cream, toys.

(Please ensure that any toys are new and unwrapped and that food items are non-perishable and not out of date)



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

SEASON OF ADVENT

The Season of Advent begins on Sunday, 1 December. Advent is the season to prepare for the birth of Jesus and to think about what true meaning of Christmas is. We shall gather as a school community on each Monday of Advent at 9am.



The dates are:

- Monday, 2 December
- Monday, 9 December
- Monday, 16 December

Parents are welcome to join us for our Advent prayer.

Go to: <https://cathfamily.org/?s=advent> for any Advent resources and reflections.

CHRISTMAS **CAROLS**



Our Christmas Carols night will be held on:

Wednesday 11 December at 7pm

Children can wear Christmas colors on this night. Come along and share a night of community as we recall the story of Christmas.



Don't fret: you have done your best! (14 Nov 1898 SMM)

Lucy Vassallo

Religious Education Leader

lvassallo@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

It is that time of the year where we are organising our annual Christmas Raffle.

If you have your own business, shop, boutique etc and would like to donate gifts for our raffle, they would greatly appreciated. Some examples are vouchers, gift packs, candles, kids toys (all new).

Please send all donations to the front office.

Thank you!



With the temperatures starting to rise, and the UV Index reaching high levels during the day, it is important that as a school community we continue practising being **“SUNSMART”**

Children must wear a hat on the yard, during sport and breaks. We are a registered SUNSMART school. As such, we adhere to a very strict **‘NO HAT, NO PLAY’** policy. Any child not wearing a hat will be directed to play on the verandahs out of the sun. This is for your children’s own wellbeing.

We also recommend that students are wearing sunscreen each day during Term 4. It is strongly encouraged that parents place a small roll-on sunscreen in your child’s bag, and encourage them to apply as necessary before going outside. Please note SMMPS staff cannot supply or apply sunscreen to students.

If you have any questions regarding the SMMPS Sunsmart Policy please contact the school office.



LEARNING and TEACHING



TERM 4 WEBSITE 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.

YEAR 5 ROBOTICS INCURSION

On the 30th of October the grade fives attended an incursion that primarily focused on robotics and creating robots for practical use in farms.

Pauline and Kevin our presenters for the day taught us how to create robots and how to wire them. We learnt how to operate robots, as well as, make them function. We were encouraged to use our wildest imaginations for robot designs and follow the design process to serve the needs of farmers experiencing drought and hardships.

The criteria for a successful robot was that it had to be able to move, perform at least 3 operations in the farm and be able to manoeuvre it's arms. Pauline and Kevin encouraged us to make our robots for practical use rather than making it look fancy and cool.

Duc Nguyen 5 Yellow



Year Six

Sydney & Canberra Experience

21/10/2019 – 24/10/2019

Day One

It was the morning of camp and all the Year 6 students were excited but a little nervous too. We all grabbed our bags and off we went on our way to school. We hopped on the bus, waved our parents goodbye and off we went to the airport.

We got there and there were so many of us! We waited and soon it was time to FLY!! After about an hour flight of seeing lots of clouds, we landed in Sydney. We met our coach drivers and went to Bondi beach to see the famous Bondi lifeguard tower. We sat down in the sun and had some fish and chips.

Next we went and explored Bondi where we saw the beautiful ocean with its many waves crashing with the white foam. We hopped on the bus to the Travel Lodge where we checked in and found out who was in our rooms, our groups and what we were doing. The rooms were great!

We got ready to have dinner at the Canopy that served delicious pizza and schnitzel followed by chocolate ice cream. YUMMY!! We walked back to the hotel and rugged up for the Sydney Harbour cruise.

WOW! What an amazing sight it was to see the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and Luna Park lit up! It was a highlight for many and one of the most beautiful and fun things we did on camp. Day one was done and we all went to sleep and boy we were in for a full day on day two.

*Sacha Pondeljak
6 Green*

Day Two

Day two began by enjoying a brilliant buffet breakfast at our hotel. Once we packed all our things on the bus, we headed for Mary Mackillop Place in North Sydney.

Mary Mackillop Place was a very inspiring and historical place to be since our school patron saint is St Mary Mackillop. Whilst we were there, we saw how old schools such as Penola, were in Mary's time. These still ran like a normal school but there were definitely a few different things, as they didn't have the same things we have now. One of the last places we visited in Mary Mackillop Place was her tomb. This was amazing and the tour guides explained that they moved her to a more sacred place in the chapel instead of the cemetery where she was originally buried.

Once we finished all sightseeing in Mary Mackillop Place, the sisters served us a delicious lunch. Then we were off to Canberra.

The bus trip was very fun! We had music and movies to keep us busy for the long bus ride. Bus One's driver was Reese. He was a very fun guy that loved driving busses and taking people to see his hometown Canberra!

Once we arrived in Canberra we went to the YHA, our accommodation for the last few days of this experience. After a few hours we went out for a walk around the streets of wonderful Canberra and Mr McCluskey took us to get gelato which was very nice of him.

*Matthew Muratore
6 Yellow*

Year Six

Sydney & Canberra Experience

21/10/2019 – 24/10/2019

Day Three

After an exhausting day of driving from Sydney to Canberra we woke up to day three of our exhilarating experience. We started the day off with the Embassy tour and we learnt that most countries have an Embassy in Australia and if a tourist or migrant is in trouble, they can contact their Embassy.

After this, we visited the Parliament House of Australia and we actually got to see the Senate and the House of Representatives. We learned many new facts about how Politicians work.

Shortly after, we hopped onto the bus and travelled a very short distance to a park near the War Memorial for a barbeque lunch. We then took a short walk to the War Memorial! Our tour guides taught us all we needed to know about those who have served and those who are currently serving. We were told some fascinating stories.

During the night we went to Telstra Tower to see a magnificent view of Canberra.

Lucas Sant
6

Day Four

Day four began with a hot breakfast of bacon and eggs. Soon after packing we separated into two groups, Bus One and Bus Two and climbed aboard the same buses that had carried us around for the whole camp. We were then taken to the High Court of Australia. We entered the magnificent building and were given a tour of several courtrooms and told about many interesting events and stories that had taken place inside them. We were then packed onto the bus once again and drove to a park to have a lunch of either a beef or chicken burger.

After some time to play on the playground, we were off to the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) where we were given a tour of the facilities. We had the chance to see the gym where the athletes train and even taken to an interactive area where we were able to test out some equipment.

To end the adventure, the Year Sixes were taken to Questacon where we were able to play with some interactive activities. We also had the chance to go on a five metre slide called the 'Free Fall' and experience what it's like to fall through space.

Then it was time for our final meal at Hog's Breath Café before heading to the airport. Many students slept on the flight back to Melbourne before reuniting with our families at school later that night.

Chryssa McNeill
6 Blue



Yr. One excursion to Werribee

On Tuesday, I went on my special excursion to Werribee Mansion. I was washing clothes and drying them. I used some awesome yellow soap. I felt the slippery soap. I smelt the dirty clothes. I learnt that in the olden day's ladies had the important job of washing, drying and ironing and the boys' important job was building and getting milk from the farm cows.

Naar (1 Red)



On Tuesday we went on a speedy bus to Werribee Mansion. On our way there we saw the white and brown birds flying in the beautiful blue sky. After we arrived we walked around the old and fancy mansion. We saw a golden roof, a dining table and an olden days toilet. We were taught how to be ladies and gentlemen and how to tiptoe up the stairs. We went into the children's' playroom where there was a beautiful dolls house and an old puppet show. Then we went to the farm where we saw lots of old wagons and old dusty cottages. It was very old and dark. Next, we went to the washing room. It was very hard work. We had to take the wet clothes and wash them with the wooden dolly. Then we had to place them through a mangle (an olden days dryer). We learnt about ironing and we got to feel the heavy irons that they used in the olden days. Finally it was time for lunch and a little play. After lunch, we went to look at the old Grotto. On our way there we saw little quacking ducks and ducklings in the blue pond.

(Sentences taken from a collection of students writing in 1 Yellow)

My favourite part of the excursion was when we walked around the mansion. I learnt that lots of people worked in the mansion. I found out that there are different objects in the ladies room compared to the men's room such as different lights. (Emilia Benjamin 1G)

I found out that in the olden days the children played with wooden toys, rocking horses, puppets and dress ups. My favourite part of Werribee Mansion was that there was a farm and they had some animals on the farm. (Olivia Ferraro 1G)

I liked going inside the mansion because I found out that it was built in 1800 and it took three years to build. I enjoyed using the washboard in the laundry and it was hard work. (Cruz Causovski 1G)



I really liked going to Werribee Mansion, it was really cool to see how big their house was. (Maks 1B)

I liked that at Werribee Mansion they still have a garden that they use for food and that there were animals there (Bianca 1B)

I really liked walking up and down the stairs like ladies and gentleman. (Steve 1B)



CARNEVALE

day at smmps



Year 2 Carnevale Day



"I enjoyed making an Italian carnevale mask!" Jonah, 2G

"I loved making my costume with my mum and brother" Ava P, 2Y

"I loved showing my costume to the whole school in the parade" Thomas, 2 Blue

"I loved eating the gelati" Iliana, 2Y



"I loved taking the funny photos in the photo booth" Maddison, 2 Blue

"I liked eating ice cream and playing Bocce" Bianca, 2 Red

"I loved learning about Padre Pio who is an Italian saint!" Rebecca, 2G

"The dancing was really fun" Jamie, 2 Red



Carnevale in Prep

oh Carneval day we
had lots of fun And we
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itaken!? And we tok
fowrtos in the gondola.
Wat an aimesing Day!!



ITALIAN CARNEVALE DAY

On Carnevale Day , we ate gelato in the morning . Next, we went to the photo booth and took lots of photos with props. We made and ate pizzelle with lots of icing sugar. Then we designed our own pizzelle pattern for our family crest. We learnt how to do the tarantella and when we got back we guessed how much pasta was in the jar. Last, but not least we made scratch masks. My favorite part of the day was eating the gelato and the pizzelle. Delizioso!!!!!(Amelia Zahra 4R)



CARNEVALE IN YEAR 5

On Friday 1st of November we celebrated a very special day acknowledging a very loved country Italy. Carnevale day consisted of many activities like learning the Italian Tarantella dance, participating in the soccer clinic, cooking pizza, eating pizzelle and drinking coffee. On this exciting day students were asked to dress up as an Italian character. The teachers organized many prizes to be won like the best costume. We also got to eat delectable and mouth-watering gelato. We spent some time having fun with our teachers and classmates making pizza and the best part was eating it ! We have lots of gratitude towards Signora Commisso for making this day perfect.

Abbiamo avuto una bellissima giornata! (we had a great day).

Rand 5 Yellow



For Carnevale I had so much fun. On Friday, 1st November the whole school celebrated a special day for the Italians which is called Carnevale. We all dressed up in different Italian characters, and everyone put in a lot of effort and there were many creative and fun costumes. The day was filled, with many fun activities, which were awesome. These included a soccer clinic, dancing, making and eating pizza, drawing our own Mona Lisa, listening to Italian songs and taking photos in the Italian room. We all enjoyed the gelato truck and welcomed the cool gelato, as it was a hot day. We also ate this traditional Italian food called pizzelle and had coffee with it. What an awesome day!!

Ci siamo goduti la giornata (we enjoyed our day.)

Maria 5 Yellow



YEAR 3 CARNEVALE DAY



"We made the masks and it was really fun because we got to create our own design". Anabelle B

"My favourite part of Carnevale was doing a dance as we had a lot of fun". Reon

"My favourite part of Carnevale was when we got to dress up as an Italian soccer player as it was special". Jett

"My favourite part of Carnevale was getting gelato in the morning as we normally don't eat it in the morning". Alicia



"I liked taking pictures at the photo booth as we got to try out masks and see what we looked like as the Mona Lisa". Sophie

"I like Carnevale as we get to do lots of fun things, we get to dance the Tarantella and have so much fun!". Angelie



YEAR FOUR SCIENCE!

PROFESSOR BUNSEN



During term 4, the Grade 4's have been studying Chemical Science. For our incursion we had Professor Bunsen come and visit us. He showed the grade 4's many different experiments that involved using different chemicals. Each experiment showed a different reaction. He mainly focused on learning about solids, liquids and gasses.

Throughout the day we also got to see the differences between hot and cold chemical reactions. A chemical reaction is when two or more chemicals are mixed together to create a new substance.

Some students were able to participate in the science experiments. These included hand boilers, using heat to bend spoons and making water disappear from cups!

The grade 4's thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had lots of fun!!!

By Alexa, Analise and Natalie 4 Blue



IMMERSION DAY

Our Grade 4 science day was great. We were separated into four small groups and spent the day working together as scientists. Throughout the day we had four experiments, The floating egg, Disappearing act, Will it Mix? and The Citric Acid Act. We all learnt that when some chemicals are mixed they can cause a big reaction while others make smaller reactions and have less of an impact. Next we learnt that some liquids will mix with each other and then some will just float on the top like oil. We also learnt how in water an egg can float but in other liquids that are more dense it sinks. Finally, we learnt that when you mix some substances like sugar and salt with water they will dissolve while sand will sink to the bottom.

By Abbey Syamanond, Sarah Solomon and Dante Parreira



COMMUNITY *news*



**FREE TRIAL
FOR NEW
ATHLETES**

KEILOR LITTLE ATHLETICS

FUN, FAMILY AND FITNESS

Little Athletics helps kids 5 to 15 develop a range of athletic skills with focus on being your best instead of being the best.

**EVERY SATURDAY
MORNING 9AM-12PM.**

**FREE WEEKLY TRAINING
TUESDAY 6-7PM.**

Located on Stadium Drive, Keilor Park. Season runs October-March. Cross country season May-August.

HOW TO JOIN

Visit our website keilorlac.com.au or come down on Saturday morning and see our events in action.



UPCOMING *events*

Wednesday 20th November - Friday 22th November

Year 4 Camp

Wednesday 4th December

2020 Prep - Meet the Teacher

9.30am- 10.30am



Thursday 5th Friday 6th December

School Closure Days

Wednesday 11th December

(please note change of date)

Annual Christmas Carols

7.00pm - 8.30pm



Friday 13th December

Year 6 Finish @ 1.00pm

(Guard of Honour at 12.45pm)

Graduation in Church at 7.00pm



Wednesday 18th December

Year Prep to Year 5 finish @ 1.00pm

CANTEEN

term four



Cookie Day
19/11

Hamburger Day
28/11

Xmas cupcakes
11/12



Get onto flexischools.com.au to order



LAST BOOK CLUB FOR 2019

Get your orders in for the **final** Book Club for 2019. This is a great opportunity to purchase presents for nieces, nephews, family and friends. The school receives bonus dollars for every order placed. This money goes towards purchasing books for the library and the classrooms.

Issue 8 was sent home this week. All orders will need to be placed by 2 pm FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER.

Thanks for your support,

Anna Yorston
Literacy Leader