

No 1. 06 February, 2020

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Community,

Welcome to the 2020 School Year.

Together we look forward to an exciting year of learning. We offer a particularly **warm welcome to all the excited and maybe somewhat apprehensive Prep children to our school.** We welcome their families and invite you to enter fully into the life of our school.

We also welcome new children and families to our school who have joined us in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6. It is good to have you with us.

Thank you to all families and children that make up our school community.

Your trust and support is sincerely appreciated.

We also welcome a number of new staff to our school:

Kristie Minshall- Year 1 teacher

Luisa La Rosa- Year 2 teacher

Laura Barui- Year 4 teacher

Natalie Awad- Year 6 teacher

Monika Gojevic- Learning Support Officer

Carolyn Felton- Learning Support Officer.

Sian Toney- School Councillor (2 days per week)

Katie Pearse- School Speech Therapist (2 days per week)

We are always excited to have new staff aboard . They bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our school.

St. Mary MacKillop Primary School (SMMPS) is Catholic Learning Community. We teach, honour and respect the traditions and rituals of the Catholic Church, within our contemporary context.

As Christians we are truly called to be people of hope for the world.

Our Vision for our school sums up our dreams and what we strive to be and do at SMMPS.



**Inspired by the Gospels
and in the spirit of St. Mary MacKillop,
we never see a need
without taking action.**

**We live and celebrate
our Catholic faith.**

**In and through positive relationships,
we aspire to protect all children under our care,
prioritising their safety and wellbeing.**

**We learn to be,
to know,
to do,
to live together
and to change.**

We are a community of lifelong learners.

We particularly look to St Mary MacKillop, our patron and namesake for inspiration in our day to day life. In each Newsletter, we will publish one of Mary's inspirational quotes, as obtained from her many hundreds of letters she wrote during her life time.

Today our quote is quite simply:

"God loves us all." 1906

- Mary was an ordinary woman, living an extraordinary life.
- **Mary was born** on 15 Jan 1842 - Brunswick St, Fitzroy, Australia
- **She died** on 8 Aug 1909 - Mount St, North Sydney, Australia
- **She founded** the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart - (the Josephites)
- **Mary was Canonised** a Saint of the Church in October of 2010



We are proud of the fact the children of SMMPS know her so well...

Mary was and remains a role model for all Australian people.

At St. Mary MacKillop Primary School, all learning is guided by our:

Learning Essence Statement.

Relationships are at the heart of our learning community.

We engage in rigorous learning experiences that are both independent and collaborative.

We strive to develop dispositions that enable us to become self-motivated learners.

We value a learning journey that inspires us to make meaningful connections.

We look forward to a happy year together.

Anthony McCluskey
Principal

MEET OUR STAFF

Hello! I'm Luisa La Rosa, the classroom teacher of 2 Blue. I'm new around here, but not new to teaching. I have previously worked at St. Damian's Bundoora beginning as the Italian teacher before moving into the classroom as a Year One Teacher. I am very excited to continue my teaching journey here at St. Mary MacKillop as I have already felt so welcomed by staff, students and families.



Hello, my name is Natalie Awad and I am very excited for what this year has to offer. I am the new Year 6 teacher at St Mary MacKillop Primary school and this will be my third year teaching however my first year at this wonderful primary school. I look forward to working with our Year 6 students in their final year of primary school and cannot wait to watch all the wonderful things they achieve.

My name is Kristie Minshall and I have recently moved from Sydney to Melbourne to continue my teaching career and experience all that Melbourne has to offer. During Term 4, 2019 I was teaching Year 1/2 at St Anthony's in Alphington and prior to that I was teaching Year 1 in Sydney at Harbord Public School. I love teaching and working with children, which I have done in various capacities working as an Au Pair in Dublin, Ireland, working in Childcare, and Vacation Care programs. In my spare time I enjoy trying new restaurants, getting to the beach when possible, walking around the Maribyrnong River and spending time with my friends.



Hello, my name is Laura Barui. Last year I had the opportunity to complete my final placement at St Mary MacKillop, where I spent 6 weeks working with the Grade 6 students. I am now working with the Grade 4 students and am excited for the year ahead.

My name is Monika and I have just started at SMMPS. I have a passion for teaching and encouraging kids to be the best they can be, and look forward to liaising with teachers and working with the students. I am a mother of three and children aged 14, 12 and 7. My time outside of school is spent being a taxi to activities such as judo, golf, violin and piano. In my free time I love to crocheted and cook.



My name is Carolyn and this is my first year at SMMPS. I am currently working with Grade 2 and cannot wait to get to know all the students. Last year I worked with Grades 4's and 6's at KVPS just around the corner. I have a 13 year old daughter and spend my time running her around to her sporting activities. My home is full of animals, including 2 fur babies Maxi and Mini, too many birds to count and a few goldfish.



Saint Mary MacKillop Staff List 2020

Prep		
Kimberley Siadis	PB	19
Eileen Marner	PR	21
Deana Cannatelli	PY	15
Connie Simiele	PMP	MPR

Year 1		
Kristie Minshall	1B	10
Leah Butterick Natalie Mulford	1R	12
Fiona Parnell (EAL Support)	1Y	11
Madison Barlow	1G	13

Year 2		
Luisa La Rosa	2B	7
Shannon Lange	2R	9
Linda Marino Yolanda Bezerra	2Y	8

Year 3		
Melanie Gallagher Vicki Himmelreich	3B	2
Sandra DiFalco	3R	1
Rebecca Micallef	3Y	3

Year 4		
Stephanie Adam	4B	33
Kirsten Mifsud Corinne Clarke	4R	34
Laura Barui	4Y	32

Year 5		
Samantha Bartolo	5B	30
Matt Saxon	5R	29
Angela Amato	5Y	31

Year 6		
Jasmine McIlvena	6B	24
Natalie Awad	6R	27
Stephanie Taylor	6Y	26

Specialist Team	
James Quinn	ICT Leader/STEM
Jason Maxwell	P.E/Sports Leader
Sarina Commisso	Lote (Italian)
Di Riepsamen	Visual Arts
Samantha Kelly	Library Media
Jenny Brittain	3-6 Maths Intervention
Laura Kantzidis	3-6 Literacy Intervention
Sarah Fogarty	3-6 Intervention
Corinne Clarke	P.E/ Sport
Julia Fodero	Prep Art-Italian/Support

School Leadership Team	
Anthony McCluskey	Principal
Anthony D'Amico	Deputy Principal
Jennie Monaghan	Wellbeing /Child Protection Officer
Lucy Vassallo	RE Leader
Rita Krnac	Leader of Learning and Teaching Literacy Leader 3-6
Aaron Kuras	Maths Leader P-6 Data Coordinator
Sandra Lind	Learning Diversity Leader
Jenny Melki	Literacy Leader P-2

Admin Team	
Joe Murphy	Bursar
Kellie Doherty	Front Desk/PA to the Principal
Catherine Brawn	First Aid
Luke Murphy Tayla Melki	Admin Support

Support Staff	
Denise Thorne	Library Technician
Sian Toney	School Counsellor
Katie Pearse	Speech Pathologist
Sharon Ciantar	LSO-Learning Support Officer
Luisa Ganino	LSO
Bili Bosevski	LSO
Lidija Shay	LSO
Maryanne Favrin	LSO
Nicki Wierzbowski	LSO
Heather Gauci	LSO
Monika Gojevic	LSO
Carolyn Felton	LSO

Maintenance Team	
Heath Thomas	Property and Maintenance Manager
Frank Krnac	Maintenance Officer
James De La Rue	Maintenance Officer

PREP

2020

On Monday we welcomed over 75 new Prep students to the school. They were eager to meet their new teacher and classmates, and explore their new classroom. The children visited different parts of the school and are learning the names of some of the staff who will be working with them as well as the names of lots of new friends.

During their first day, Prep students enjoyed Discovery Learning and tried out all kinds of activities - magnets, role play, colouring, paper folding and lots more. The older students have been looking out for them at play times. They have been showing, by example, our school values - being respectful, resourceful, responsible and safe.



UPCOMING *events*

Wednesday 12 February

Parent Teacher /Student Conversations

1.00pm to 6.30pm

School Finishes at 12.30pm

Thursday 13 February

Year 6 Confirmation Family Night at 7.00pm

Tuesday 18 February

Parent Teacher /Student Conversations

3.30pm to 6.30pm

School Finishes at 3.15pm

Wednesday 19 February

Year 3 Reconciliation Family Faith Night at 7.00pm

Wednesday 26 February

Ash Wednesday Mass at 12.00pm

Tuesday 3 March and Wednesday 4 March

School Photos

Thursday 5 March

Prep 2021 Information Session and Tour at 9.30am

UPCOMING *events*

Monday 9 March

Labour Day Public holiday

Tuesday 10 March

Prep 2021 Information Session at 7.00pm

Wednesday 11 March

Prep 2021 School Tour at 9.30am

Thursday 19 March to Thursday 26 March

Teeth on Wheels

Tuesday 24 March

2021 Prep Tour at 9.30am

Wednesday 25 March

Year 3 Sacrament of First Reconciliation at 7.00pm

Friday 27 March

End of Term 1 . School finishes at 1.00pm

