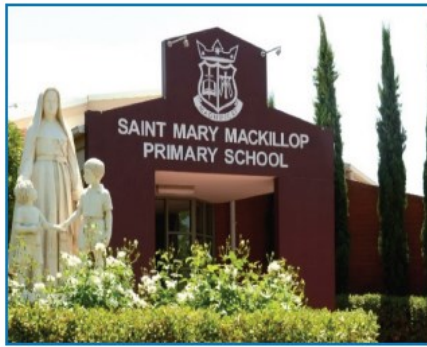


No 2. 26 February, 2020

# ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue Keilor Downs, Vic 3038 [www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au) T: 03 9367 6199



Dear Community,

We have well and truly moved into the school year. I am proud to report that, in the main, the children appear to have settled well. I appreciate there is always a period of adjustment as children settle into new class cohorts navigating their way around new relationships with peers and teachers. Even the most confident of children may be finding it all a bit hard. However, I am confident with the emphasis placed on relationships at our school and the absolutely quality of our teachers, all will be well.

## **Patience is a virtue.**

As a young woman, Mary MacKillop wrote to her Sisters:

***Have patience with yourselves  
when you see that you have failed—  
and patience with others  
when they seem to have done so ...  
Mary MacKillop – February 16, 1874***

Pope Francis has said to the world:

***'... Have you thought about God's patience,  
the patience God has with each one of us?  
That is God's mercy. God always has patience, patience with us.  
God understands us, and waits for us ...'  
March 17, 2013***

The children will notice difference. Last year's class is different from this year's class. Last year's learning may have been less challenging than this year's learning. Last year's teacher is different from this year's teacher.

Your children will come home with stories from their day. Some will be happy and other stories will tell of the child's anxieties and struggles. We **must** listen to them and respect their story.

However, **in the spirit of St Francis of Assisi, we must, "seek first to understand."** Talk to your child calmly and without overdramatising their story. Listen and then if necessary seek further information from your child's teacher or relevant party that can offer a non-biased opinion.

Remember our concern is for your child's wellbeing and education. We want all children to feel valued and listened to. We want all children to feel safe and we want all children to develop patience. We as the adults, model the way. We need to *walk the talk*. We need to teach our children skills that they might learn how to be in this world.

I offer these few reflections as a principal, parent and grandparent. I listen to the many children over whom I have influence, both here at school and at home. I am always respectful and strive to understand. I also appreciate there are always two sides to a story, so it is critical to seek the truth. In this way all children can feel safe.

Of course, **Child Safety** is a priority within our school. Our school Vision Statement clearly states, '*In and through positive relationships, we aspire to protect all children under our care, prioritising their safety and well-being.*' Our **practice** of listening and striving to seek truth contributes to each child's safety and well-being.

This is something of which I am personally proud.

---

Another issue which we face is our child's online practices. I came across this snippet and thought you may be interested...

### How to keep your child safe online:

- Your child should not use their full name online; they should use a nickname or their first name only.
- They should not disclose their address or phone number online.
- They should not post or share photos of themselves that show their identity or location (such as a school logo).
- Manage your child's security settings on online networking sites to protect their privacy and review them regularly.
- Consider whether the 'chat' function enabled on apps and games is necessary.
- If you are concerned a child is at risk of online (sexual) exploitation, report it to police or visit [thinkuknow.org.au/report](https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/report).

# ST. MARY MACKILLOP

primary school

Please talk to James Quinn, our ICT leader at the school, if you need further advice or support regarding online safety. I appreciate it's a minefield, however we might be able to offer some support or direct you to a resource for support.

Have a good week everybody.



**Anthony McCluskey**  
Principal

## CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our congratulations to Sarah Fogarty (Senior Teacher) on her recent marriage to Angus Groves. We wish both Sarah and Angus a lifetime of blessings and happiness.

### *Jesse Laino Tennis Services*

*Tennis lessons available during  
lunchtime, after school and on  
weekends*



*YOUR CHILD'S FIRST LESSON IS  
FREE!  
(Group or squads lessons only)*

**M: 0426 893 683**  
**W: [www.jlts.com.au](http://www.jlts.com.au)**  
**E: [anthony.raso25@hotmail.com](mailto:anthony.raso25@hotmail.com)**



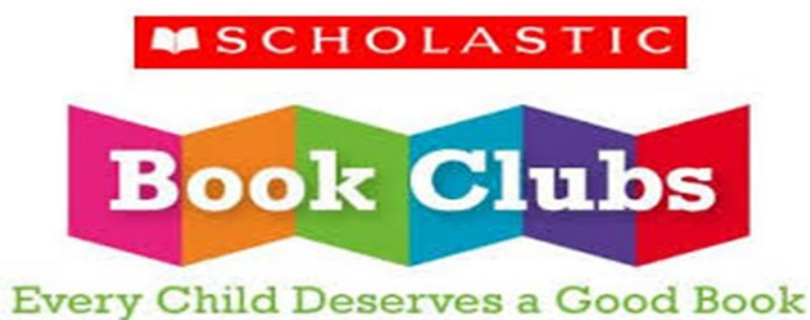
### *Tennis Clubs and Schools*

*Keilor Park Tennis Club  
Mary Mackillop Primary, Keilor Downs  
St. Augustine's Primary, Keilor  
St. Clare's Primary, Thomastown*

# LEARNING and TEACHING

## Term 1 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.



The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

SMMPS is participating in Scholastic Book Club this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, I will send home the Book Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop) or by using the LOOP app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play. **No cash payments to the office will be accepted.**

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching resources for the school, however there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Thank you to the families who ordered from Issue 1, over \$1,500 worth of books were bought, earning the school over \$300 in rewards points. The catalogue for Issue 2 will be available very soon.

Rita Krnac

Leader of Learning and Teaching



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

news



## Religious Education News

Vol 2 February 2020



**Whole School Mass**  
**February 26 @ 12.00pm**

Parents are more than welcome to attend our Ash Wednesday Mass at 12.00pm. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. On this day we receive the cross of ashes on our foreheads. We focus on spending more time in prayer, almsgiving. Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xo1mjuy1NA0> and learn about the Season of Lent.

*Be strong, and turn your life toward God. SMM*

**SACRAMENTS 2020** Parents have booked their Mass times for the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion. Written acknowledgement of your child's mass time will be sent to you by Monday, March 2. Thanks also, for the wonderful attendance at both our Confirmation and Reconciliation Faith nights. Your attendance on such occasions demonstrates to your child the importance of these sacramental celebrations.



During the Season of Lent, a Lenten action is that of almsgiving. We invite you to support Caritas Australia. This week your child will bring

home a Project Compassion Box where you can place your donations during Lent.

Return your donations in the **last week of term**. Support of such an organization is a *great act of social justice* in a world that needs us to reach out to those in need.



### WEAR SOMETHING PURPLE

**Monday, 2 March**

**Gold Coin Donation**

Purple is the Church's color for the Season of Lent. Wearing something purple, will remind us that we are in the Season of Lent which is about giving to others.

Children may wear casual clothes, which includes wearing something purple! The money raised will go towards Caritas Australia.

You can read about the great work Caritas does by going to the following link: <https://lent.caritas.org.au/#blank>

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK** celebrates the marvelous work that is done by all our Catholic schools throughout Melbourne. On Tuesday 17 March, ten of our Year 6 students will attend the Mass for Schools which will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral in East Melbourne. The motto for Catholic Education Week this year is *The Future is Listening*, which calls us to take note of what God is asking of us this Lent.

## Religious Education News

Vol 2 February 2020

### **SMMPS LENTEN SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION!**

During the Season of Lent, the Church calls us to spend more time in prayer, fasting and give to those in need.

This year we need your help to make our Lenten actions practical and real this year.

I had the idea of creating Care Packs for children who have been impacted by the bushfires. I have been discussing the idea with our school leaders and in level planning with teachers.

So, I got in touch with St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies) in Bairnsdale to ask them how we, as a school community, can support families impacted by the frightening bushfires. I spoke to Trish, who coordinates Vinnies in Bairnsdale, who loved our idea. Trish told me that one primary school burnt down and 2 others were badly damaged. Trish will be contacting Principals of these schools, so they might let us know what the children, teachers and the school may need.

We will also be asking the children of SMMPS, 'What do you think you would NEED if you lost everything?'

How amazing would it be, if we had an enthusiastic response to this Lenten project???

We hope to deliver our donations personally to Vinnies in Bairnsdale!

**MORE DETAILS TO  
COME ABOUT WHAT  
YOU CAN DONATE !!!!!**



*Always be thankful. (SMM) - Lucy Vassallo*  
Religious Education Leader  
[lvassallo@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lvassallo@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au)

**SO STAY TUNED.....**



# ST. MARY MACKILLOP

primary school

Dear Families,

Hello...my name is Stephanie Aquilina.  
I am a mother of two & both my children attend school at Mary Mackillop.

I have a home business called **Steph's Keepsake Designs & Creations** specializing in custom made sacraments & special occasion packages.



I've had the privilege to create some personalised packages for children that attend our school & I wanted to extend my service to those families that are not aware of my service.  
Please know that I am here to help & I honestly strive to ensure you are happy with your package & will work with your needs to ensure your child's special occasion is a memorable one!

The following can be included to your child's PERSONALISED Sacramental Package.  
Handmade/printed invitations, bonbonnières, personalised signs, cake topper's, gift boxes, candles, keepsake gifts for the heart & soul and much more....

If you would like more information or prefer to meet me in person, please don't hesitate to contact me on  
☎ 0408 060 069 ✉ [stephdim84@hotmail.com](mailto:stephdim84@hotmail.com)

You can find me on Facebook + Instagram <https://www.facebook.com/StephsKeepsakeDesignsCreations>

Thank you Lucy Vassallo & Mr Anthony McCluskey for allowing me this opportunity,  
your support is much appreciated.



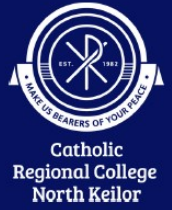
## Ava Maria Year 7 2022 Applications

# SHE WHO SUCCEEDS



Applications for Year 7 in 2022 close on Friday, 21 August 2020.  
To book a tour visit our website at [www.avemaria.vic.edu.au](http://www.avemaria.vic.edu.au)

# Catholic Regional College North Keilor



# Year 7, 2022

## Enrolment Information Evening

### 6.30pm, Wednesday 18 March

John Arthurson Auditorium  
Catholic Regional College North Keilor  
1c Santa Monica Drive, Keilor Lodge

*2020, The Year of Compassion*  
*'The Lord is good to all; He has compassion...' Psalm 145:9*





## College Tours

Bring your child to a College Tour to;

- Meet the College Principal
- Visit classes in action
- Chat to Enrolment Staff and Student Leaders
- Share Morning Tea

### Term 1 Tour Dates

Tuesday 25 February	TOUR FULL
Thursday 5 March	9.15am
Friday 13 March	9.15am
Tuesday 24 March	9.15am

### Twilight Tour prior to Information Evening

Wednesday 18 March 5.30pm

**Bookings essential. Book at:**

[www.crcnk.com.au/enrolment/college-tours](http://www.crcnk.com.au/enrolment/college-tours)

## Enrolment Timeline

**Monday 3 February, 2020**

Year 7, 2022 Applications Open

**Friday, 21 August, 2020**

Applications Close

**15 October, 2020**

Offers posted to families

**6 November, 2020**

Final date for Acceptance

**For more information contact:**

Samantha Beg, Community Liaison Officer

Email: [enrol@crcnk.vic.edu.au](mailto:enrol@crcnk.vic.edu.au)



## CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

### Parent/legal guardian details

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

-  -  -  OR

☐ Foster parent\* OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)\*\*

\*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

\*\*Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

### Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_



## CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

### Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible\* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
  - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
- b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
- c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

\* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx)

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

### Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

### Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (28 January 2020) or term two (14 April 2020).

## PAYMENT AMOUNTS

### CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx)

**Year 7 government school students** who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

## HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

### NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.  
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.  
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2020 closes on 26 June, 2020.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

**Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.**





# FESTIVAL

**Sunday, 1st March**

**12pm - 5pm**

**120 ANDERSON RD SUNSHINE**

**FITNESS & KIDS Corners**

**History, Music & Prizes**

***Free gift to all children arriving  
at 12:30 for Kealba Music  
School's Singalong!***

*free parking next door or on Harvester  
Rd Sunshine then over railway  
footbridge on Devonshire Rd*



**@FriendsOfMckayGardens**

# UPCOMING *events*

## **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

## **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

# UPCOMING *events*

**Canteen-Term 1, 2020**

**[flexischools.com.au](http://flexischools.com.au)**

**Thursday 5th March**

Donut Day

**Wednesday 11 March**

Pie Day

**Tuesday 17th March**

St. Patricks Day Cupcakes

**Wednesday 25th March**

Sushi Day

