

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Vic 3038
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Staying Connected No. 4, 2024

Dear Community,

Greetings Everyone,

Welcome back to Term 2 at our wonderful school.

I hope that you all had a wonderful Easter and a relaxing break spent with family and friends. The school holidays can sometimes be a hectic time of the year but also a wonderful time to unwind and reset the batteries.

We started the term with a wonderful celebration as a school community with many children showcasing the fantastic creations they worked on during the break. It was lovely to see the effort so many children put into creating their Easter Hats and showing them off to the school community.

It was a great festive way to the start of Term 2. I thank all the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and anyone else who took the time to come and celebrate with us. It was a wonderful morning and great to see so many happy smiling faces.

As I transition into my new role as Principal here at St Mary MacKillop I want to thank all the parents, students and staff who have congratulated me and shown me their support. As many of you know, I pride myself on building positive relationships and want to continue the great work we do as a school community together. Please feel free to come and see me and have a chat, I am often on yard duty before and after school.

St. Mary MacKillop Primary School is committed to child safety. We believe all students deserve, as a fundamental right, safety and protection from all forms of abuse and neglect.

Enrolments for Prep 2025 close on Friday 10th May. It is important that all current families get their enrolments in by this date as we have lots of interest and we need to get an accurate number of current families. If you know of any families who wish to enroll please let them know that enrolments close soon.

All enrolment information is available on our website and enrolment applications can be filled out online on our school website.

Go well everyone and always remember;

“If you see a need do something about it.”

Anthony D’Amico

Principal

REMINDERS

- ANZAC Day Public Holiday **Thursday 25th April** and School Closure Day **Friday 26th April**.
- The School opens at 8.30am and children can enter the classroom at 8.50am. Please do not drop children off prior to 8.30am. If you need to bring your child to school before 8.30am please book them into the before school hours program.
- If your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school they **must be handed** into the teacher in the morning where it will be stored in a secured location and returned to them in the afternoon. Please refer to the Mobile phone policy on the following pages.

CHANGES TO NOTE

- As there is no supervision on the playground area in the morning, the playground is **out of bounds** and children are not to play on the playground before school.
- The front drive through area between the Church and the School operates as a **drive through zone only before school**.

Due to a few near misses, those who wish to park and bring their child into class must use the back car park area. There is now **no parental parking** in bays outside the front of the Church.

PREP ENROLMENTS 2025

Enrolments for 2025 close on Friday 10th May.
Make sure you get onto our website to secure a position.

Enrol now.....

Go to our website

<https://www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au/>

Click on 'Enrolment Information' link at the top of the page.

Once redirected to the '2025 Prep Information and Timeline' page click on the St Mary MacKillop Prep Online Application link

<https://app.digienrol.com/user/signup>

Create an account and proceed to fill out the online application form or call Kellie on 9367 6199 for assistance.

Easter Hat Parade

By Olivia Padovano, Media Leader

Our first Assembly of Term 2, on Monday 15th April, was an Easter Hat Parade to celebrate the Season of Easter.

We had our Year 3 students lead us in prayer. They told us about the story of the empty tomb and helped us to reflect on the joyful story and Jesus's presence in our lives. Last term they worked with Mrs Mulford to write these prayers, and what a great job they did!



Then it was time for the parade to begin! One by one, each year level paraded around the Assembly Area, showing off their creations of Easter Hats. We had joyful music playing while everyone was showing the beautiful creations that they had made. Everyone was included in this celebration, wearing party hats if they didn't have their own creations to wear. The families clapped and cheered for all of the people in the parade.

To end our Assembly, the choir sang a lovely song called {Open the Eyes of My Heart} to help us reflect on Jesus' presence in our everyday lives, especially during this season of Easter.

"Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless."

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St Mary MacKillop PS

Mobile Phone & Smart Watch Policy



Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS) is a company limited by guarantee that has been established by the Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne to assume the governance and operation of MACS schools.

MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community St Mary MacKillop's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices such as Smart Watches] during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- All students at St Mary MacKillop Primary School and,
- Students' personal mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices eg. Smart watches] brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A **mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. "For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches."

POLICY

St Mary MacKillop Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone or smart watch to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At St Mary MacKillop Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored in secured box in the classroom during school hours. Smart watches must be set to School Mode and not connected during the school day.
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones Policy issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at St Mary MacKillop Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at St Mary MacKillop Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. **Please note that St Mary MacKillop Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft.** Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, St Mary MacKillop Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At St Mary MacKillop Primary School students are required to hand their phones to the classroom teacher to be placed in a lockable box.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at St Mary MacKillop Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing policies (Student Wellbeing and Anti-Bullying Policy).

At St Mary MacKillop Primary School there is to be no use of mobile phones **during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted.

Students are not to use their Mobile Phones:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission, and
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, school buildings, gyms and school grounds (or surrounding areas afterschool)

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

St Mary MacKillop Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)
- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school

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Catholic Regional College
Sydenham

2024 COLLEGE TOURS WITH THE PRINCIPAL



COLLEGE TOUR DATES

Tuesday 19 March - 11:00am
Thursday 16 May - 9:30am
Thursday 13 June - 4:00pm
Tuesday 15 October - 11:00am

To register for a College Tour,
scan the QR Code below.



Or visit our website:
crcs.vic.edu.au
and navigate to
'Join our Community' and
'College Tours / Events'

*Every Student
Every Pathway*

She Who Explores: Food Technology

Come and see what it's like to be an Ave girl with our brand new after school program, **She Who Explores**.

Designed specifically for Year 4 and 5 students, this is a fantastic opportunity for our future students to explore subjects that they will be able to study at Ave Maria College.



Meet our fantastic Food Technology teachers and current students as we cook up a storm in our Term 2 Food Technology program.

For more information, please email Assistant Principal (Community and Partnerships), Mrs Natalie Meddis, AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.au or register via the QR.





St Mary Mackillop's P.S.

Mothers Day Breakfast Fundraiser

~Friday the 10th of May 2024~

Adults Serve \$12.00

Child's Serve \$10.00



Two Belgian waffles served with homemade berry compote and a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

One Belgian waffle served with homemade berry compote and a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

\$2 Dollars will be donated to the school from each order

Order on QKr! By Wednesday the 8th of May 2024

2024 Term Dates

Term 1: 31 January-28 March 2024

(Good Friday 29 March-Easter Monday 01 April)

Term 2: 15 April-28 June 2024

Term 3: 15 July-20 September

Term 4: 7 October-17 December

(Year 6 finish Friday 13 December)

Upcoming Events 2024

Term 2: 15 April-28 June 2024

Wednesday 24 April

2025 Prep Information Session @ 9.30am

Thursday 25 April

Anzac Day Public Holiday

Friday 26 April

School Closure Day

Thursday 2 May

Year 3 Reconciliation @ 12pm

Thursday 9 May and Friday 10 May

Mother's Day Stall

Friday 10 May

Mother's Day Breakfast 8am - 9am-See flyer

Wednesday 15 May

School Closure Day-more details to come

Monday 20 May and Friday 24 May

Teeth on Wheels

Monday 27 May

Communion Family Faith Night @ 7pm

Saturday 15 June

Year 3 Communion @10.30am and 12.30pm

Friday 28 June

Last day of Term 2

Students finish @ 1.00pm